THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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What's News

Business & Finance

Google will keep its employees home until at least next July, making it the first major U.S. corporation to formalize such an extended timetable in the face of the coronavirus pandemic. **A1**

◆ **Vanguard is pushing** into actively managed bond funds, challenging competitors like BlackRock, Fidelity and Pimco in that arena. **A1**

◆ **The SEC warned** Under Armour, founder Kevin Plank and the firm's CFO that they could face civil-enforcement action related to past accounting practices. **B1**

◆ **Nike chose** Felicia Mayo as its new diversity chief, adding a Black woman to its leadership team. She succeeds Kellie Leonard, who is leaving. **B1**

◆ **Visa and Mastercard** each fined Wirecard more than $10 million over dubious transactions more than a decade ago. **B1**

◆ **Sen. Susan Collins said** she would join fellow Republican Mitt Romney in opposing Judy Shelton's nomination to the Fed's board. **A2**

◆ **AstraZeneca agreed** to pay Daiichi Sankyo up to $6 billion to jointly develop and commercialize a drug that targets a range of cancers. **B1**

◆ **U.S. stocks rose**, with the Nasdaq, S&P 500 and Dow advancing 1.7%, 0.7% and 0.4%, respectively. **B11**

◆ **Gold prices hit** a record as a weakening dollar injected new momentum into the metal's rally. **B11**

◆ **Intel is shaking up** its technology team and said its chief engineering officer was leaving the company. **B4**

World-Wide

◆ **Senate Republicans** rolled out a roughly $1 trillion coronavirus relief proposal, launching a race to reach a deal with Democrats on expiring unemployment payments and other disputes in the parties' rival plans. **A1**

◆ **Ex-Malaysian leader** Najib was convicted on all seven charges he faced in his first trial related to the 1MDB scandal. **A7**

◆ **U.S. coronavirus cases** rose by 55,000, the slowest daily pace since July 7, as some states continued to struggle with a rising number of infections, hospitalizations and deaths. **A6**

◆ **Major League Baseball's** effort to stage a season amid the coronavirus pandemic was dealt a blow following a spate of positive tests on the Miami Marlins. **A14**

◆ **National security adviser** Robert O'Brien tested positive for Covid-19 and is working in self-isolation, the White House said. **A4**

◆ **Barr, in congressional** testimony scheduled for Tuesday, was set to issue a vigorous defense of the Trump administration's deployment of federal agents in response to protests. **A3**

◆ **State officials** and the USDA are investigating reports of people receiving unsolicited packages of seeds that appear to have mostly originated from China. **A3**

◆ **A cease-fire between** Ukrainian government forces and Russia-backed separatists took effect, offering the prospect of an end to hostilities in eastern Ukraine. **A9**

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Washington Pays Its Respects to Civil-Rights Giant Lewis

SHAWN THEW/PRESS POOL

TRIBUTES AND MOURNING: Civil-rights leader Rep. John Lewis, who fought Jim Crow era segregation and helped usher in a landmark voting-rights law, will lie in state in the Capitol Rotunda for two days before being buried in Atlanta. A4

Google Tells Staffers to Work Remotely Until Next Summer

By Rob Copeland And Peter Grant

SAN FRANCISCO—Google will keep its employees home until at least next July, making the search-engine giant the first major U.S. corporation to formalize such an extended timetable in the face of the coronavirus pandemic.

The move will affect nearly all of the roughly 200,000 full-time and contract employees across Google parent Alphabet Inc., and it adds pressure to other technology giants that have slated staff to return as soon as January.

Businesses from factories to salons and restaurants are grappling with when and if to reopen amid a stubborn rise in Covid-19 cases around the country. Though some offices have added plexiglass barriers and other social-distancing protections, the risk of outbreaks among workers remains.

Even for those industries where working from home is relatively manageable, the return has been slow. In New York City, fewer than one-tenth of Manhattan office workers are back to the workplace, a full month after the city gave businesses the green light to reoccupy buildings vacated in March.

"People are being rightfully careful," said William Rudin, chief executive of Rudin Management Co. and head of one of New York's most prominent real-estate families.

Google's July 2021 date plants the company firmly in the cautious camp of those debating the efficacy and wisdom of remote work.

Alphabet Chief Executive Sundar Pichai made the deci-

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◆ First subjects get Moderna's coronavirus vaccine.....A6
◆ Miami Marlins' virus outbreak disrupts MLB's return..... A14

GOP Bill Sets Up Clash Over Aid To Jobless

Proposal leaves little time to negotiate with Democrats on expiring benefits, other disputes

By Andrew Duehren And Siobhan Hughes

WASHINGTON—Senate Republicans rolled out a roughly $1 trillion coronavirus relief proposal on Monday, launching a mad dash to reach a deal with Democrats on expiring unemployment payments and other disputes in the parties' plans.

The Republican plan cuts the current federal $600 weekly unemployment supplement to $200 a week through September, when the payment would combine with state benefits to replace 70% of previous wages. Democrats proposed continuing through January the current supplement, which costs about $15 billion a week.

The reduced benefit would come at a delicate time, with just over three months before November's elections. The U.S. jobs market has partially rebounded since the unemployment rate went from 50-year lows to record highs early in the pandemic, with employers adding 7.5 million jobs in May and June. But a recent increase in people seeking unemployment insurance signaled the recovery could be faltering as Covid-19 cases surged in the South and West, prompting new business closures.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R., Ky.) billed

Please turn to page A4

◆ Fed's outlook grows gloomier over pandemic..... A2

Vanguard Challenges Bond-Fund Luminaries

By Matt Wirz

Vanguard Group, the titan of low-cost index funds, is coming after a fast-growing pocket of the money-management industry: actively managed bond funds.

The firm's investment dollars in such funds pushed past the half-trillion mark for the first time in June, a potential problem for competitors such as **BlackRock** Inc., Fidelity Investments, Pimco and **Western Asset Management** Co., which have long dominated bond investing.

Malvern, Pa.-based Vanguard has made a number of hires in recent years to expand in areas like emerging markets, short-term corporate debt and panmarket, or "core bond" funds. Most of the nascent funds are small to midsize but are growing quickly, in large part because they charge much less than the competition.

Lower-cost bond funds are particularly attractive now because the U.S. Federal Reserve has cut interest rates close to zero to soften the pandemic's economic pain. Bond yields have declined in lockstep. The yield of a widely followed Bloomberg Barclays U.S. bond index fell to 1.15% last week, its lowest level in at least 20 years, according to data from FactSet.

"With rates where they are, if you pay an extra 0.50 [percentage points] in fees, you have to go a long way to make up for it," said Bob Brinker, who publishes an investing newsletter focused on bond mutual funds. "Overall I think it's really about cost, and Vanguard is the leader."

Vanguard is already a leader in funds that mimic preset indexes of stocks and

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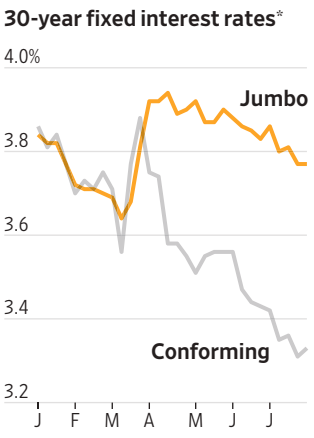
Jumbo Rates Lose Edge

Rates on bigger loans now lag behind smaller ones. B10



*Through July 22
Sources: Bankrate.com

Grocers Bottle Their Own Milk And Shake Up Dairy Industry

Bid for lowest possible prices hurts companies with premium brands

By Jacob Bunge and Jaewon Kang

Americans' thirst for cheap milk—and grocers' rush to provide it—are remaking the centuries-old dairy industry.

When supermarket shoppers reach for white gallon jugs these days, most of the time they grab a low-priced store brand. To expand those offerings, major grocery retailers, including Kroger Co., Walmart Inc. and Albertsons Cos., have built their own milk-bottling plants.

Grocers' move into the bottling business is threatening some of the biggest operators in the $40 billion U.S. milk industry, the purveyors of national brands. Dean Foods Co., which until last year was the largest U.S. milk processor by sales, and Borden Dairy Co., another big producer, were sold this year after filing for bankruptcy in November and January. Executives of both had blamed some of their struggles on grocers' focus on cheap milk, often used as a loss leader.

"There are retailers who prefer to have really aggressively low prices on milk because it's a great way to get people in the stores," said Tony Sarsam, Borden's former chief executive. Private-equity firm KKR & Co. and Capitol Peak Partners LLC, an investment firm headed by former dairy executives, bought Borden out of bankruptcy

Please turn to page A10

New York Rats, Emboldened By Lockdowns, Have a New Foe

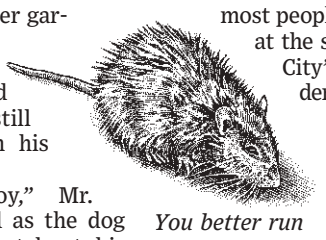
* * *

Sundrop and other hunting dogs are taking on the vermin, trash pile by trash pile

By Stephanie Yang

On the night of July 4, Elias Schewel and his dog, Sundrop, rummaged around a trash-ridden street corner on Manhattan's Lower East Side.

In a flash, five rats darted out from under garbage bags, and Sundrop emerged with one still squirming in his mouth.



You better run

"Good boy," Mr. Schewel said as the dog placed the catch at his feet before dashing off in pursuit of another. Mr. Schewel stomped on the rat's head to finish the job.

About an hour later, eight dead rats lay on the flatbed of Mr. Schewel's truck. It had been a slow night.

"It's normally crawling with rats," he said. "You uncover the top of the trash can and there are like 20 of them in there, looking at you like snakes in a pit."

Mr. Schewel is among a small set of New Yorkers who hunt rats with their dogs. While most people shriek in terror at the sight of New York City's least-popular denizen, Mr. Schewel and Sundrop, named for his sunny disposition, go from trash can to trash can ferreting out vermin to catch and kill.

Mr. Schewel even volunteers their services to residents whose neighborhoods are overrun—no payment necessary. "I would never want to give someone the false impression that I can solve a problem," he

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U.S. NEWS

Fed's Outlook Grows Gloomier

Officials stress need to curb the pandemic so economic recovery can be sustained

By Nick Timiraos

Federal Reserve officials meet Tuesday and Wednesday facing growing doubts about the prospect for a sustained economic rebound due to the nation's uneven public-health response to the coronavirus.

Officials have warned this month in speeches and interviews that the economy faces a deeper downturn and more difficult recovery if the country doesn't take more effective action to slow the spread of infection.

Since the Fed's mid-June policy meeting, virus infection rates have accelerated in many states that were among the first to encourage businesses to reopen. Business leaders and economists have warned that hard-hit industries such as travel, entertainment and hospitality will face a more difficult recovery if consumers don't feel confident spending money indoors and gathering in large groups.

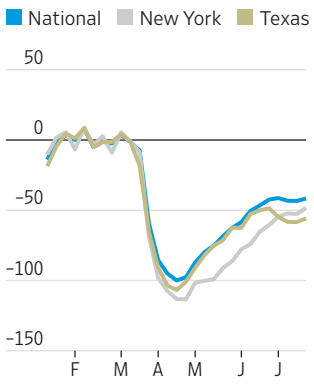
The Fed isn't likely to roll out new stimulus measures this week but is debating how to provide more support to the economy once the economic outlook becomes clearer. It could do this by adjusting its purchases of Treasury and mortgage securities and by providing more detail about what conditions would lead it to consider withdrawing stimulus.

Fed officials have focused their recent comments on the imperative of suppressing the virus by more aggressively adopting social-distancing measures, including wearing masks, and by boosting the capacity to test, trace and isolate known infection cases.

"How well we follow the health-care protocols from here is going to be the primary economic tool we have," said Dallas Fed President Robert Kaplan in a July 16 interview.

After the pandemic triggered widespread shutdowns in March, Boston Fed President Eric Rosengren said he had expected infections to recede by the summer much as they have in Europe. "Unfortunately, that is not the case," he said in a July 8 interview.

The Dallas Fed Mobility and Engagement Index measures the deviation from normal mobility behaviors induced by the pandemic



Note: Weekly values for the national index averaged zero for January and February; the minimum of the weekly averages is -100 for the national index in the week ended April 11
Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

The longer that infection rates flare up, the harder it will be for a range of industries that employ millions of Americans to recover. That, in turn, could lead to higher spells of extended joblessness, business failure and stress on the banking system.

The economy will face "severe economic consequences" if the public health response doesn't improve, Mr. Rosengren said. The Fed's policy response is "not going to be able to offset all the losses if we continue to make serious public health mistakes."

He said he is particularly troubled about what could happen in the fall, as college students return to campus from around the country, younger students go back to school, and cold weather makes it harder for restaurants to operate outdoor dining.

Regional data from the online reservations site OpenTable shows the Northeast is the only part of the U.S. that saw an increase in restaurant dining through mid-July on a weekly basis, suggesting that consumers are more willing to dine at restaurants in areas where the virus is under control.

The economy added 7.5 million jobs in May and June but still has 14.7 million fewer jobs than before the pandemic. Coronavirus infections have accelerated in several large states since mid-June, when the Labor Department conducted its most recent survey of payroll growth.

Real-time data tracked by Fed economists suggested that strong gains in hiring in May and June may not be sustained, said Fed governor Lael Brainard in a speech July 14.

"Business leaders are getting worried. Consumers are getting worried," Atlanta Fed President Raphael Bostic said July 7 in a discussion hosted by the Tennessee Business Roundtable. "There is a real sense that this might go on longer than we had hoped and we had expected and we had planned for."

One risk for the Fed is that markets and the public expect it will fix problems its tools aren't suited for, said former Fed governor Randall Kroszner.

"There is nothing the Fed can do to bring back the airline industry, to replace broken supply chains, to make people feel comfortable going out to shopping malls," said Mr. Kroszner, who now teaches at the University of Chicago.

Nominee Faces New Opposition From GOP

By Nick Timiraos

Sen. Susan Collins (R., Maine) said Monday she would join Sen. Mitt Romney (R., Utah) in opposing the nomination of economist Judy Shelton to the Federal Reserve's board of governors.

President Trump formally nominated his former economic adviser to a seat on the seven-member board earlier this year, and her candidacy cleared a significant hurdle last week on a party-line vote in the Senate Banking Committee.

Republicans have a 53-47 vote advantage in the Senate, meaning that Ms. Shelton can't afford to lose more than three Republicans if all Democrats oppose her candidacy.

The Senate hasn't set a date for a vote on her nomination but Senate aides and a White House official said a vote was possible by next week, before lawmakers are scheduled to leave Washington for their summer recess.

Ms. Collins said she had serious concerns about the nomination, citing statements Ms. Shelton made last year that were dismissive of the Fed's longstanding autonomy from the White House in setting interest-rate policy. Ms. Shelton's past writings have also questioned the need for a central bank.

"This is not the right signal to send, particularly in the midst of the pandemic, and for that reason, I intend to vote against her nomination if it reaches the floor," said Ms. Collins.

Mr. Romney last week said he wouldn't vote to approve Ms. Shelton.

Fed nominees have traditionally enjoyed at least some support from lawmakers in both parties, and party-line confirmation votes have been rare. One of Mr. Trump's other nominees, Christopher Waller, an economist at the St. Louis Fed, received support from all 13 Republicans and five of 12 Democrats on the Senate Banking Committee last week.

Ms. Shelton has been a longtime proponent of a return to the gold standard, which would limit the Fed's ability to influence inflation and employment, and concedes that her views are outside the mainstream of economics.

Senate Banking Committee Chairman Mike Crapo (R., Idaho) said last week Ms. Shelton had satisfactorily answered her critics during her February hearing. "I'm confident that her deep understanding of the Fed's monetary policy tool kit, monetary history and commitment to maintaining Fed independence will serve the Fed well," Mr. Crapo said.

U.S. WATCH

NEW YORK

Trump Moves Again To Shield Tax Returns

President Trump renewed his efforts Monday to block a subpoena for his tax returns by the Manhattan district attorney, describing the request as "patently overbroad" and amounting to "harassment of the President."

In an amended complaint filed in Manhattan federal court, Mr. Trump's lawyers asked a federal judge to bar Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr. from taking any action to enforce the subpoena, which sought years of tax and other financial records from Mr. Trump's accountants, Mazars USA LLP, as part of an investigation into hush-money payments made by Mr. Trump's former lawyer, Michael Cohen.

Monday's filing follows the Supreme Court's ruling earlier this month that rejected the president's claims of immunity from the subpoena. The high court's decision left Mr. Trump to challenge the subpoena in district court.

Mr. Trump's lawyers had indicated in a July 15 filing that they would seek to undermine the merits of the subpoena and Mr. Vance's investigation.

Mr. Vance's office is set to respond to Mr. Trump's filing next week.

—Rebecca Davis O'Brien

ERIC GAY/ASSOCIATED PRESS

CLEANUP: Debris left by now tropical depression Hanna littered Weslaco, Texas, on Monday. The area was flooded as the storm dropped heavy rains and its remnants still threaten to bring flash flooding to waterlogged parts of South Texas and northern Mexico.

CHICAGO

Homicides, Shootings Decline, Police Say

Homicides and shooting incidents have declined since Chicago's police force launched two units aimed at combating gun violence and ensuring protests and other large events don't devolve into chaos, police said Monday.

Chicago Police Superintendent David Brown said "tenuous progress" has been made in the department's efforts to stem gun violence.

There were three homicides over the weekend, compared with 12 and eight the previous two weekends and 17 over the July Fourth weekend, Mr. Brown said. From 6 p.m. Friday until midnight Sunday, the department recorded 39 shootings. That was down from 41 the previous weekend, 50 the weekend before that, and 87 during the long Independence Day weekend.

"Our citywide teams deployed Thursday for the first day...helped cover more areas that have seen spikes in violent crimes," Mr. Brown said.

While protests took place in the city over the past weekend, none of them turned violent, Mr. Brown said.

—Associated Press

HAWAII

Storm Heads North, Does Little Damage

Hawaii avoided a direct hit Monday from Hurricane Douglas as the storm tracked just north of the islands.

"Not only did it not make landfall, it skirted by the islands," said National Weather Service meteorologist Chevy Chevalier.

The Central Pacific Warning Center lifted the hurricane warning for the island of Kauai, the final remaining hurricane warning in place for the state. There were no initial reports of injuries and what damage there was appeared to be minor.

It is rare for hurricanes to hit the islands and their small size compared with the vastness of the Pacific Ocean plays a role. The hurricane's rain showers "fell apart" with Oahu not receiving much rainfall, Mr. Chevalier said.

—Associated Press

Vanguard Fights Top Bond Funds

Continued from Page One

bonds rather than trying to beat them by actively picking specific securities. Investors have flocked to index products because they charge less and, by some measures, deliver more consistent returns. Vanguard's push into active bond investing is a new front in the fee war between large asset managers as they trim their own profits to win more customers.

Launched in 2016, Vanguard's core bond fund has become one of its fastest-growing bond products, growing 60% in the first half of the year to $2.2 billion in assets. The fund costs investors $1 to $2.50 annually per $1,000 invested depending on the share class, compared with older and larger funds operated by Western Asset, which charges $4.20 to $15.20, and BlackRock, which charges $3.80 to $14.30, according to data from Morningstar Inc.

Spokeswomen for Western Asset and BlackRock declined to comment

Vanguard's actively managed bond funds grew by $27 billion in the first half of 2020 to $506 billion, according to a company spokesman. Active bond funds managed by BlackRock grew by about $11 billion to $950 billion over the same period, according to the company's quarterly earnings reports.

Vanguard has been steadily expanding its bond-fund menu since the 2008 financial crisis as aging investors shifted toward fixed income and away from stocks. Investors have put about $1.5 trillion into bond mutual funds since the start of 2009 and pulled about $1.4 trillion out of stock funds over the same period, according to data from the Investment Company Institute, a trade group.

The bulk of that growth came from Vanguard's primary business, index funds—rather than from active funds competitors such as bond powerhouse Pacific Investment Management Co. specialize in. A Vanguard index fund dethroned Pimco's flagship bond fund as the largest in the world in 2015 and has roughly doubled since then to $277 billion.

Vanguard has managed active debt funds for decades, primarily in municipal debt, but the business has been slower to grow.

"Vanguard is thought of as an index shop, and when you're looking to buy an actively managed bond fund, it is probably not the first name that comes to mind," said Jeffrey DeMaso, director of research at Adviser Investments, a money manager that focuses on mutual and exchange-traded funds.

About five years ago, the firm set out to change that by broadening the range of active bond funds it offers, said John Hollyer, global head of fixed income at Vanguard. It launched an ultra-short-term bond fund in 2015, and the core bond fund and an emerging-markets bond fund in 2016.

Its actively managed bond funds grew by $27 billion in the first half of 2020.

Mr. Hollyer also recruited outside talent, hiring Daniel Shaykevich from BlackRock for emerging markets, Sara Devereux from Goldman Sachs Group Inc. and Anne Mathias from Guggenheim Partners for interest-rate strategy and Arvind Narayanan from State Street Global Advisors for investment-grade credit.

The new funds are still relatively small, and Vanguard's active bond funds account for about 8% of overall assets. Still, the rate of growth picked up in 2020.

Vanguard's ultrashort fund has been particularly attractive this year as a slightly riskier alternative to money-market funds, which now yield close to zero because of the Fed's rate cuts, Mr. DeMaso said.

The fund, which yields about 1%, has grown to $9.3 billion from $6.7 billion at the start of the year, while Pimco's comparable fund has shrunk and Fidelity's has stayed unchanged, according to Morningstar. The lowest-cost shares in Vanguard's fund charge $1 per $1,000 invested, compared with $4.50 for Pimco and $2.50 for Fidelity.

"It took decades for it to happen on the index side and Vanguard's competitors are going to resist this, but I think the direction, the gravitational pull, is for fees to come down," Mr. DeMaso said.

"Fidelity has a large, global research organization and decades of experience managing fixed income funds, with $1.4 trillion in fixed-income assets of June 30, 2020, over $450 billion consisting of both actively managed and index bond funds," a company spokesman said. "Fidelity Conservative Income Bond Fund has performed well and we continue to see strong investor interest in the fund."

A spokeswoman for Pimco declined to comment.

CORRECTIONS & AMPLIFICATIONS

Eight North Korean escapees who had settled in South Korea re-entered the North between 2016 and 2018, Seoul's Ministry of Unification says. In some editions Monday, a World News article about North Korea reporting its first apparent Covid-19 case incorrectly gave the number as nine.

Regis Philbin attended the University of Notre Dame. The school was incorrectly called Notre Dame University in an obituary of Mr. Philbin in Monday's U.S. Watch.

In Betty Smith's novel, "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," Francie Nolan's father, Johnny, is an Irish-American. An article about the book in Saturday's Off Duty section incorrectly identified Mr. Nolan as an Irish immigrant.

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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
(USPS 664-880) (Eastern Edition ISSN 0099-9660)
(Central Edition ISSN 1092-0935) (Western Edition ISSN 0193-2241)

Editorial and publication headquarters: 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10036

Published daily except Sundays and general legal holidays.
Periodicals postage paid at New York, N.Y., and other mailing offices.

Postmaster: Send address changes to The Wall Street Journal,
200 Burnett Rd., Chicopee, MA 01020.

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U.S. Probes Seeds Mailed From China

By Jesse Newman

State officials and the U.S. Department of Agriculture are investigating reports that hundreds of people have received seeds in the mail that they didn't order.

Agricultural officials across the U.S. have launched probes after residents received unsolicited packages of seeds that appear to have mostly originated from China. Mike Strain, Louisiana's commissioner of agriculture and forestry, which is investigating packages received in that state, said the USDA is also investigating the matter.

A USDA spokesperson said the agency's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is aware that "people across the country have received unsolicited packages of seed from China in recent days." The spokesperson said USDA is working with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection and state agriculture departments to prevent the illegal entry of prohibited seeds and protect agriculture from invasive pests and noxious weeds.

Mr. Strain said packages sent to Louisiana residents appear to be from China and Uzbekistan, and that some were labeled to suggest they contained jewelry or toys.

China's Foreign Ministry didn't respond to requests for comment. Uzbekistan's embassy in Washington didn't comment.

Other departments of agriculture in states from Virginia to Washington are investigating similar packages, or have asked residents to report any unsolicited seeds they received in the mail. They are urging people not to plant the seeds.

Officials are trying to identify the seeds, which they worry could be invasive plant species, and threatening to native plants and crops, or could introduce diseases or be harmful to livestock.

"I don't think anyone has determined what's really going on here," said Mr. Strain. "If they are invasive or contain plant pests or disease, from an agricultural point of view, that is our greatest concern."

Mr. Strain said his department learned Friday that a resident had received unsolicited seeds in the mail. Since releasing the information publicly that same day, the department has received phone calls from more than 150 people in Louisiana and other states, from California to Massachusetts, who received similar packages.

Field agents have begun collecting seeds from residents across the state. The initial seeds, brought to a lab in Baton Rouge, appear to be Chinese water lily seeds, Mr. Strain said.

Some state agriculture departments said the seed shipments amount to the illegal practice of agricultural smuggling because they were intentionally mislabeled to bypass U.S. customs. Importing seeds typically requires they come from a certified source. Some seed recipients told officials they had already planted them.

PAULA BRONSTEIN FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Crowds are again surging at demonstrations in Portland, Ore., following this month's arrival of federal forces and violent clashes.

All Sides Are Angered in Portland

By Miriam Gottfried And Alejandro Lazo

PORTLAND, Ore.—Persistent and sometimes violent demonstrations in a short stretch of a city with a long history of protests have made Portland a target of the political left and right.

Mayor Ted Wheeler and his city council colleagues are in the middle, opposing the intervention of federal agents and caught between the conflicting demands of residents, business owners and protesters who say the city has done too little or too much.

Mr. Wheeler stood before protesters at the Multnomah County Justice Center last week to show his support for police reform and his opposition to the federal agents stationed nearby. He got booed. Some yelled that he should resign, expressing anger over his oversight of Portland police. A little more than an hour later, the mayor was tear-gassed by federal officers.

Businesses are complaining of millions of dollars in damage, lost sales and looting.

Eric Murfitt, the controller of Mercantile Portland, said owners of the high-end downtown clothing retailer were awaiting resolution of what will likely be a $1 million insurance claim for stolen and damaged merchandise, broken windows and wrecked fixtures, the fallout from an early protest. He said he supports the fight for racial justice, but he blames Portland's leaders for letting the protesters go too far and holds federal agents responsible for turning them into martyrs.

"They've gotten a lot of sympathy from a lot of people, including Ted Wheeler," Mr. Murfitt said. "None of that illegal activity should have gotten sympathy."

Justin King, who owns Rooks Barbershop, said windows were broken three times at his downtown store last month. Mr. King, who regularly participates in demonstrations, said it happened "while I was out getting tear-gassed. It was pretty frustrating."

Mr. Wheeler has called for federal officers to leave and for protesters to act peacefully. "It's got to stop right now," Mr. Wheeler said of protest violence. Yet the officers remain, along with growing numbers of demonstrators, seemingly energized by the tear gas and rubber bullets from their new adversaries.

Similar political tensions are surfacing in other cities. Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan, a Democrat, faces a recall petition that alleges she failed to restrain aggressive police tactics at Black Lives Matter demonstrations, even after she allowed the temporary establishment of a police-free protest zone on city streets. On Friday, Ms. Durkan called for peaceful protests, citing President Trump "making good on threats to send federal forces into American cities." The city reported the arrest of dozens of people and injuries to 59 officers during weekend protests.

Mayor Ted Wheeler and the city council are caught between conflicting demands.

The city council in Washington, D.C., last week approved a $15 million, or roughly 3%, cut to the police budget, which some activists complained didn't go far enough and Mayor Muriel Bowser said was too much.

In Portland, Mr. Wheeler and his colleagues voted June 17 to divert more than $15 million, or around 6%, from the police budget for other public services, a decision that failed to satisfy activists who wanted $50 million in cuts or to eliminate the department altogether.

By the end of June, the demonstrations had largely dwindled to a few hundred people, including those who officials say spray-painted graffiti, threw rocks, broke windows and set off fireworks.

Damage to federal buildings and statues prompted Mr. Trump on July 1 to authorize the deployment of federal officers to Portland.

Barr Will Defend Protests Policy, Blast Russia Case

By Sadie Gurman

Attorney General William Barr will issue a vigorous defense of the Trump administration's deployment of federal agents in response to nationwide protests over racial injustice and of his leadership of the Justice Department more broadly when he testifies before Congress on Tuesday.

According to prepared remarks released late Monday, Mr. Barr will dispute accusations that he has repositioned the Justice Department to favor President Trump. Democrats plan to press him on a number of matters, including his personal intervention in criminal cases involving Mr. Trump's allies.

Republicans will seek to portray Mr. Barr as a defender of the rule of law striving to restore order both on the streets and inside the Justice Department after investigations consumed much of Mr. Trump's first two years in office.

"My decisions on criminal matters before the department have been my own, and they have been made because I believed they were right under the law and principles of justice," Mr. Barr plans to say in opening remarks.

He also intends to accuse demonstrators of inciting violent clashes with federal agents in Portland, Ore., and other cities and blame antipolice rhetoric for spikes in urban crime.

Trump administration officials say federal agents were sent to Oregon to protect federal property, but local officials have demanded they leave, questioning their authority to make arrests and detain protesters, sometimes while heavily camouflaged and hard to identify.

State leaders have also said the tactics of federal agents have energized the protests rather than calmed them. The protests were sparked by the May killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police.

Without citing specific cases in his opening statement, Mr. Barr plans to say that his decisions haven't been influenced or directed by the White House or anyone else.

"Ever since I made it clear that I was going to do everything I could to get to the bottom of the grave abuses involved in the bogus 'Russiagate' scandal, many of the Democrats on this Committee have attempted to discredit me by conjuring up a narrative that I am simply the president's factotum who disposes of criminal cases according to his instructions," Mr. Barr plans to say.

He was referencing special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation of Russian election interference, which led to the convictions of five Trump advisers and the indictment of two dozen Russians, including Russian intelligence officers.

Democrats plan to ask him about Mr. Trump's decision this month to commute the sentence of his longtime informal adviser Roger Stone.

Mr. Barr intervened to seek a lesser sentence for Mr. Stone, after prosecutors had filed a request that aligned with sentencing guidelines for Mr. Stone's conviction for lying to Congress and witness tampering.

Democrats plan to press Mr. Barr on a range of issues during his first appearance before the House Judiciary Committee, which was rescheduled from March due to the coronavirus pandemic.

"There is so much to cover," said Rep. Madeleine Dean (D., Pa.), a member of the committee. "Under his watch, I am gravely worried about the rule of law and our precious Constitution...so there's an awful lot to ask."

Manufacturing Picks Up, but Worries Linger

By Jeffrey Sparshott

Orders for long-lasting U.S. factory goods rose in June as the economy continued its climb back from disruptions related to the coronavirus pandemic, though a summer surge in virus infections could damp future gains.

New orders for durable goods—products designed to last at least three years—increased a seasonally adjusted 7.3% in June from the previous month, the second consecutive monthly gain, the Commerce Department said Monday. Economists surveyed by The Wall Street Journal had expected orders to rise 5.4%.

The auto sector was a big driver. New orders for motor vehicles and parts jumped 85.7% from the previous month.

Underlying figures were more modest. New orders for nondefense capital goods excluding aircraft—a closely watched proxy for business investment—rose 3.3%.

Even with two consecutive monthly gains, demand remains well below prepandemic levels. Overall, new orders last month were 15% lower than in February, and core capital orders were down 3%.

"The manufacturing sector remains exposed to weak demand, which will impact investment and hiring decisions going forward," said Rubeela Farooqi, chief U.S. economist at **High Frequency Economics**.

MARK J. TERRILL/ASSOCIATED PRESS

New orders for motor vehicles and parts jumped 85.7% in June from the previous month.

Manufacturers were already caught up in trade disputes between the U.S. and China. The coronavirus pandemic was another blow, further disrupting supply chains while forcing some plants to suspend production and implement new safety measures.

It isn't clear how robust growth will be in coming months. Factories haven't been as exposed to social-distancing mandates that, for example, forced restaurants and salons to temporarily close and later limited the number of customers.

Separate data out last week suggested that factory activity continued to grow into July. A survey of purchasing managers from data firm **IHS Markit** last week found that overall U.S. manufacturing output expanded for the first time since February as new orders ticked up.

Even so, heavy layoffs across the economy, a potential expiration of federal jobless benefits, rising virus cases and renewed consumer caution are likely to leave demand muted and overall output below prepandemic levels for some time, analysts said.

"With the recovery in production largely a response to the rebound in consumption, by far the most important factor is how much the latter slows in response to the ongoing wave of new infections," said Michael Pearce, senior U.S. economist at **Capital Economics**.

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Difficult Racial Debate Holds Seeds of Hope

CAPITAL JOURNAL
By Gerald F. Seib

The searing summertime debate over racial justice isn't really about George Floyd and his killing in police hands in Minneapolis. Virtually nobody anywhere on the political spectrum argues that what happened to him was just.

The debate is about police behavior, to some extent. But what it's really become is a discussion of systemic racism, and what turns out to be a deep Black-white divide over that broad topic: whether it still exists, what it means, and what, if anything, to do about it.

In that sense, Mr. Floyd's death has opened the door to a far more profound and difficult national debate than anyone could have imagined on the day he died eight weeks ago. The topic of systemic racism is more complex than are questions about simple racist behavior or police overreach—and much less given to easy consensus.

Yet the fact that this topic now has been laid out on the national table is why this difficult moment also might hold more long-term hope for Americans of all races.

The question was crystallized last week in a Wall Street Journal online question-and-answer session with California Rep. Karen Bass, who is both chairwoman of the Congressional Black Caucus and a potential running mate for presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden.

A listener presented a polite but pointed question: Do you have real, actual examples of systemic racism in the U.S.? If so, what would you do to solve those?

Rep. Bass responded at first with a chuckle and a simple: "Yikes," as if to indicate this question opened the door to a tough area.

It's tough because the lived experiences of Black Americans and white Americans lead to such different perspectives. Today, many white people don't see how there can be systemic racism when the nation put its most sweeping civil rights laws into effect more than half a century ago, when affirmative action policies have been implemented to address past inequities, when a Black man has been elected president—and, above all, when most white people genuinely believe they aren't racists themselves. America, they tend to believe, has made more genuine progress fighting racism than any nation on earth.

To many Black people, that also is all true, but not the whole story. They see the ways that the country's racist past has built into its social and economic systems deep underlying inequities that still exist, long after the attitudes that created them in the first place may have changed. These effects are at once both subtle and more far-reaching.

In her response, Rep. Bass pointed to the part of American life where the lingering effects of past actions are perhaps most clear: housing policy. After World War II, she noted, the federal government pumped millions of dollars into programs to build houses to develop the soon-sprawling suburbs—but under policies that denied those benefits to Black Americans. "So houses were sold at a very, very cheap rate that allowed for generational wealth to be developed in the white population, and did not in the Black population," she said.

That is true—and in fact, is an injustice that actually began even before the end of World War II. In his 2017 book "The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America," Richard Rothstein chronicles in detail how decades of federal housing policy affected the disparate accumulation of wealth in America.

Starting during the New Deal, the federal government, through its Home Owners Loan Corp., began underwriting mortgages to allow working-class Americans to keep their homes during the Depression.

But the government wanted to protect its investment by funneling funds to relatively "safe" mortgages—and decided that homes owned by white people, in all-white neighborhoods, were safer investments than homes sold to Black people or in mixed-race neighborhoods.

So mortgage assistance went out specifically to help white people, not Black people. When the Federal Housing Administration was created to expand homeownership to more Americans, it simply adopted the same policies. Then, crucially, so did the Veterans Administration when it began helping finance the largest housing boom in American history for soldiers returning from World War II.

So for decades government policies explicitly helped white Americans build housing capital and denied Black Americans the same opportunity. Such policies have long tails: They also consigned Black people to less-prosperous neighborhoods with poorer schools, with effects that linger long after the policies themselves were changed.

"I don't think it should be a guilt issue," Ms. Bass said in the Journal interview. "Whoever it is who asked that question, they didn't have anything to do with this. This is the way the system was created."

What this awful summer of 2020 has done, though, is given the country a new chance to recognize all this—and figure out how, together, to peel back some of the layers of historical racial imbalances and inequities.

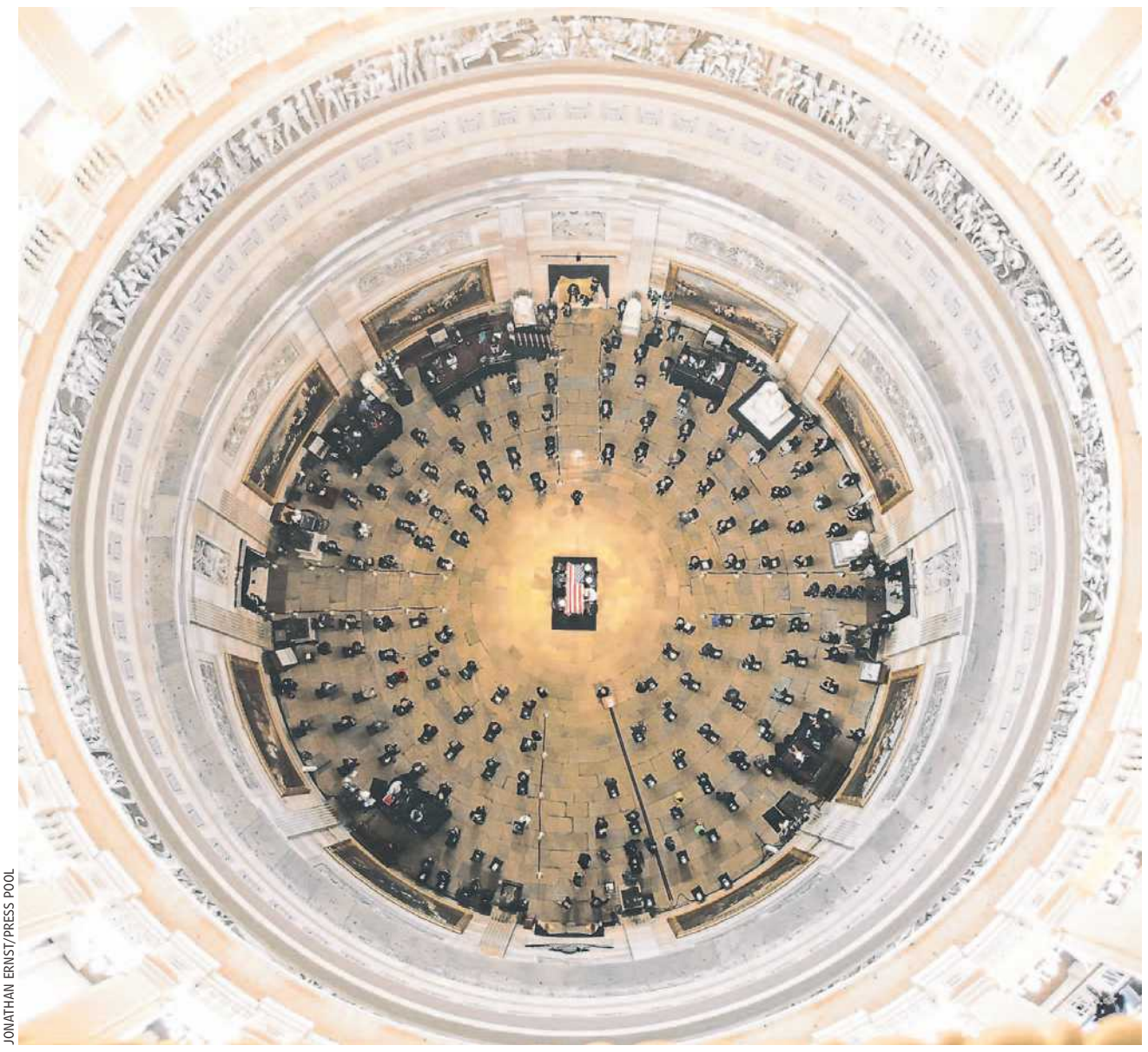
Lewis Honored as Casket Reaches the Capitol

By Siobhan Hughes

WASHINGTON—The nation's capital paid its respects to the late Rep. John Lewis, the civil-rights leader whose nonviolent tactics helped usher in a landmark voting-rights law aimed at bringing an end to the Jim Crow era of political suppression of Black Americans.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D., Calif.) said the Georgia congressman, who died July 17 at the age of 80, was part of "a pantheon of patriots," noting at a Capitol Rotunda ceremony that he was lying in state on the same catafalque that had held President Lincoln.

Mr. Lewis, who was jailed and beaten in his bid to win federal protection against voter suppression tactics, had cut a giant figure in the civil-rights movement and later in Congress. The youngest speaker at the 1963 March on Washington, he was attacked by police in a 1965 march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Ala., but preached humility and forgiveness. He urged young people to make "good trouble," a phrase that his Democratic colleagues embroidered on the black masks they wore during a socially distanced ceremony around his casket.



JONATHAN ERNST/PRESS POOL

The flag-draped casket of Rep. John Lewis was placed by a U.S. military honor guard at the center of the Capitol Rotunda on Monday.

Even as Mr. Lewis ailed from pancreatic cancer, Mrs. Pelosi noted, the congressman appeared at a Black Lives Matter protest in the nation's capital and "summoned the strength to acknowledge the young people peacefully protesting and in the same spirit of that march taking up the unfinished work of racial justice."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R., Ky.), who as a young congressional intern had watched the 1963 speeches, highlighted the role that Mr. Lewis had played in working to stamp out the injustices of segregation.

"History only bent towards what's right because people like John paid the price to help bend it," Mr. McConnell said.

The invitation-only event occurred at a time of national hardship, with the country in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, gripped by deep partisan divides and in the shadows of social upheaval stemming in part from the killing of a Black man, George Floyd, while in the custody of police.

Mr. Lewis's casket and members of the late congressman's family were met by an honor guard as they arrived at Joint Base Andrews, just outside the capital, Monday morning. They were escorted into Washington for a funeral procession, pausing by the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial and the Lincoln Memorial.

The motorcade also paused along Black Lives Matter Plaza, a newly named street near the White House that has been the center of protests in Washington against racism and police brutality.

National Security Adviser Contracts Covid-19

By Gordon Lubold

WASHINGTON—National security adviser Robert O'Brien has tested positive for Covid-19, the White House said.

"He has mild symptoms and has been self-isolating and working from a secure location off-site," the White House said. "There is no risk of exposure to the president or the vice president. The work of the National Security Council continues uninterrupted."

Mr. O'Brien is the most senior member of the Trump administration to contract the disease, though other, junior staffers have tested positive in the past and recovered. It was unclear how Mr. O'Brien, who became President Trump's fourth national security adviser in September 2019, contracted the virus, officials said.

Although other officials in the White House wore masks earlier in the pandemic, Mr. O'Brien was one of the first top administration officials to begin wearing a mask around the White House grounds and on a recent trip to Phoenix. Mr. O'Brien's illness was first reported by Bloomberg.

Asked for comment later, Mr. Trump said he hasn't seen Mr. O'Brien lately.

His contraction of the virus comes as Mr. Trump has begun to pivot toward a more cautious posture with the pandemic, saying last week that "it will probably, unfortunately, get worse before it gets better."

Larry Kudlow, the top White House economic adviser, told reporters Monday he believed that Mr. O'Brien's daughter was ill first.

"I think it's a light case. I wish him well. He's a very dear personal friend of mine, he's a fabulous colleague and a brilliant policy maker," Mr. Kudlow said.

—Alex Leary contributed to this article.

SAUL LOEB/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

Robert O'Brien

GOP Bill Sets Up Aid Clash

Continued from Page One

the Republican proposal as the appropriate response to the toll the virus continues to take. "We have one foot in the pandemic, and one foot in the recovery," he said.

Democrats criticized the GOP proposal as offering too little aid and said Republican senators should have introduced their plan earlier. "We're running out of time. but Senate Republicans just ran down the clock and tossed an air ball," said Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D., N.Y.).

House Democrats passed a $3.5 trillion virus aid package in May, setting the Democratic position in negotiations for a fifth bill. The first such measure passed and was signed in March, totaling $8.3 billion for a vaccine and state responses. By the end of March came a paid sick-leave law followed by a $2.2 trillion rescue package. Then a fourth measure, to replenish a popular small-business assistance program, passed Congress and was signed by President Trump.

The number and size of the policy differences between Republicans and Democrats will likely make it difficult to reach a compromise on the next package in just a few days. Republicans struggled to tamp down differences in their ranks over the new spending. Over the weekend, Sen. Lindsey Graham (R., S.C.) warned that half of the GOP caucus wouldn't support the bill.

"You've got to thread the needle," he told reporters on Monday. "At the end of the day we all have a need to pass something."

Top White House officials have floated the idea of breaking off some policy items into separate bills to try to pass them more quickly, but House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D., Calif.) has rejected that approach.

Mrs. Pelosi and Mr. Schumer met with Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and White House chief of staff Mark Meadows for nearly two hours Monday evening, and Mr. Meadows said they would meet again Tuesday. The Democrats said they were still reviewing the Republican proposals.

The number and size of differences in the opposing plans make a quick deal unlikely.

The release of the GOP plan will begin talks with Democrats. The $600 weekly addition to unemployment benefits approved in March effectively ended for millions of Americans this weekend, though it won't officially expire until Friday.

The Republican push to rejigger benefits so federal and state payments replace roughly 70% of a worker's former wages could run into technical difficulties. Under this plan, the maximum federal addition to the state benefit would be $500. Some state labor officials warned that their systems may not be able to quickly make the necessary calculations to tie the federal unemployment benefit to previous income. Republicans are proposing granting states that can't update their systems a waiver to continue offering the flat federal supplement.

Democrats lambasted the proposed change, citing the complexities of the payments and placing blame on the administration for job losses. "There is one reason people are still out of work: President Trump's failure to get this pandemic under control," said Sen. Sherrod Brown (D., Ohio). "And now as they suggest, we drop unemployment from $600 to $200—it's not alarmist: People could lose their homes."

State and local governments would get no additional aid under the GOP plan, but it would grant them more flexibility in using existing federal assistance. Democrats allotted nearly $1 trillion to state and local governments to fill budget gaps.

Republicans proposed sending another $1,200 check to the same Americans who were slated to get the cash this spring. The first round of payments provided $500 for each child, but Democrats want to raise that amount to $1,200 per child for up to three children per family. The GOP plan includes another $500 for each child but would expand the definition of dependents eligible for aid to include dependents over 16.

The plan would expand a worker-retention tax credit created in March, allowing larger credits per worker and letting up to $30,000 of wages and benefits qualify instead of $10,000. It would make more employers eligible by requiring them to show less of a revenue decline to qualify. House Democrats passed a more expansive worker-retention tax credit, which offers a larger credit that covers more wages.

To help schools and universities, Republicans proposed offering $105 billion to cover the costs of operating during a pandemic, with some of the aid available only to schools that plan to physically reopen.

Senate Democrats proposed allocating $430 billion for schools—including $50 billion for child-care facilities—to implement health measures and bolster education, whether in-person or online.

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Biden Targets Firms That Pay Little Tax

By Richard Rubin

WASHINGTON—Profitable companies like **Amazon.com** Inc. could no longer use legal breaks to drive their U.S. tax bills almost to zero under Joe Biden's proposal to increase and overhaul corporate taxes.

On top of higher tax rates, Mr. Biden would impose a 15% minimum tax on profits reported to investors, a move that would limit companies' use of popular tax breaks. That minimum tax would raise $400 billion over a decade by the campaign's estimate, and $166 billion according to the Tax Policy Center, a Washington group run by a former Obama administration official.

"Vice President Biden has been clear that it's absolutely unacceptable for some of the biggest companies in America, like Amazon, to pay next to nothing in taxes," said Michael Gwin, a campaign spokesman. He said the additional revenue would go toward infrastructure, clean energy and other priorities.

It is one way Mr. Biden hopes to reverse President Trump's 2017 tax cuts and extract money from corporations if he wins the presidency and Democrats take full control of Congress. The argument for higher corporate taxes resonates with many voters.

But critics say Mr. Biden's proposal could be counterproductive, partly because it would discourage companies from using tax breaks Congress created to promote investment in some of the very things the former vice president is trying to promote, such as renewable energy, low-income housing and manufacturing.

"It would be more straightforward to decide what policy we want and enact it," said Michelle Hanlon, an accounting professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Giving out tax breaks and then using a minimum tax to take some of them back, she said, is a "frankly kind of lazy way to do it."

How can profitable companies manage to pay little or no tax? They often do so because of the discrepancies between two sets of books. One, reported to investors publicly, follows generally accepted accounting principles for recognizing income and expenses. The other, reported to the Internal Revenue Service privately, follows the tax code.

ANDREW HARNIK/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former Vice President Joe Biden wants to impose a 15% minimum tax on profits reported to investors, on top of higher tax rates.

The rules don't always match, so companies can report significant profits on their financial statements while paying little or no tax. For example, accounting standards require companies to spread capital investment costs over multiple years, but tax rules let them deduct costs sooner, lowering their tax bills now.

Rules for valuing and deducting executive stock options also differ. In the long run, most differences between the two sets of books should even out. In the short run, discrepancies can be significant.

Mr. Biden would raise corporate taxes in several ways. He would set the corporate tax rate at 28%, up from 21%, and he would increase taxes on U.S. companies' foreign income; those moves would generate the bulk of the revenue. Then his new minimum tax would kick in, using a different structure from the minimum tax Congress repealed in 2017.

If a company reported more than $100 million in net income but paid less than 15% of that in taxes, the new minimum tax would fill in the gap (with credits for foreign taxes and past operating losses). In effect, anything companies did to drive their tax rates below the 15% level would be taken back.

The result: Many tax breaks that Congress created could get clawed back. Mr. Biden's proposed policies, together with already scheduled tax increases, would drive the average federal tax rate that companies pay up to 26.1% from 14.1%, according to Cornerstone Macro, a Washington research firm.

Mr. Biden singled out Amazon for criticism in May during a CNBC appearance, saying the giant internet retailer should pay more taxes. The company fired back on Twitter.

"You spent 3 decades in the Senate & know that Congress wrote these tax laws to encourage companies to invest in the US economy," it said. "Assume your complaint is w/ the tax code, not Amazon."

In 2019, Amazon reported $14 billion in global pretax profits. Under the corporate accounting category known as "current expenses," it listed $162 million for U.S. income taxes and $1.1 billion in foreign taxes. Those numbers don't necessarily reflect its 2019 tax bills, but they are the best publicly available approximations.

Notre Dame Pulls Out as Host of Presidential Debate

By Ken Thomas

WASHINGTON—The University of Notre Dame on Monday withdrew as host of the first planned presidential debate in late September, citing the need for public-health precautions because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The Commission on Presidential Debates announced that the Sept. 29 debate, expected to feature President Trump and presumptive Democratic nominee Joe Biden, will instead be co-sponsored by Case Western Reserve University and the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio.

The debate will be held at the Health Education Campus, a joint project between the university and clinic, which is serving as a health security adviser to the nonpartisan debate commission.

The University of Notre Dame's president, the Rev. John I. Jenkins, said the university made the "difficult decision because the necessary health precautions would have greatly diminished the educational value of hosting the debate on our campus."

The decision marked the second time that a planned debate has been altered because of the pandemic. In June, the University of Michigan pulled out as host of the second presidential debate, citing health concerns. The Oct. 15 debate will instead be held at a performing arts center in downtown Miami.

The Cleveland debate will be held at the Sheila and Eric Samson Pavilion on the health campus, where students from the university's schools of medicine, nursing and dental medicine learn and study together.

Case Western Reserve said it was "deep in Covid-19 preparations," but its partnership with Cleveland Clinic and the health campus's distance from the university's main campus would help facilitate hosting the debate.

The Cleveland Clinic said the hospital will create risk-mitigation procedures within the pavilion, including audience size, distance among seats and disinfectant measures. The hospital said those plans, including whether an audience will be present, will depend on the status of the pandemic in the weeks leading up to the debate.

The final presidential debate will be held Oct. 22 at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn. The vice-presidential debate will be held at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City on Oct. 7.

Case Western Reserve previously held the vice-presidential debate in 2004 between Republican Dick Cheney and Democrat John Edwards at the Veale Convocation, Recreation and Athletic Center.

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Vaccine Volunteers Given First Doses

By Peter Loftus

Two of the most advanced experimental coronavirus vaccines entered the pivotal phase of their studies on Monday, with the first subjects receiving doses of **Moderna** Inc.'s vaccine and **Pfizer** Inc. readying to inject participants in its trial.

Researchers evaluating the vaccines plan to enroll 30,000 people in separate last-stage, or phase 3 trials, results of which will determine whether the vaccines protect against symptomatic Covid-19, and whether they should be cleared for widespread use.

Moderna's two-dose vaccine will be administered at sites across the U.S. The Cambridge, Mass., company also received an additional commitment of up to $472 million from the federal government to support the large study, on top of the $483 million in funding earlier in the year for development, testing and preparations to manufacture at large scale.

Moderna, which codesigned the vaccine with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, previously reported promising results of the first study of the vaccine, showing it induced immune responses and was generally safe in a small number of people.

HANS PENNINK/ASSOCIATED PRESS

A volunteer received a shot Monday as part of the trial of the NIH/Moderna coronavirus vaccine.

The new phase 3 trial, titled Cove, is being conducted at nearly 90 sites in the U.S., including many in states such as Texas where the virus has surged in recent weeks.

Pfizer's trial, which will begin in the U.S. but expand overseas to include about 120 sites, will evaluate a vaccine developed with partner BioNTech SE.

As vaccines proceed through the final stages of testing, countries are jockeying to secure enough shots, should they prove safe and effective, and the supplies to transport them. Last week, the U.S. agreed to pay Pfizer and BioNTech nearly $2 billion to secure 100 million doses of their experimental Covid-19 vaccine to provide to U.S. patients free of charge.

No vaccine has proven to work safely against the coronavirus. Many vaccines developed to target other pathogens have failed in testing, including in phase 3 trials.

U.S. officials said Monday it was the fastest time from the design of a new vaccine to the start of phase 3 testing in the U.S. NIAID researchers helped design the vaccine, codenamed mRNA-1273, in January after the genetic code of the virus was posted to a public database.

"Yes, we're going fast, but no, we are not going to compromise safety or efficacy," National Institutes of Health Director Francis Collins said on a conference call with reporters Monday. NIAID is part of the NIH.

The start of the Moderna vaccine trial is the latest sign that the most advanced coronavirus vaccine candidates are moving into the final stages of testing, and could be ready for wider use before year's end if results are positive.

A vaccine co-developed by the University of Oxford and AstraZeneca PLC started a large study in May in the U.K., and is due to enter a phase 3 study in the U.S. in August.

Another company expected to be a major player in the vaccine hunt, Johnson & Johnson, started dosing participants in the first U.S. human study of its experimental shot Monday. A larger, phase 3 study of J&J's vaccine may start in September.

In the Moderna study, about half of the volunteers will receive two shots of the vaccine four weeks apart, while the other half will get two doses of a placebo. Researchers will track whether the rate of symptomatic Covid-19 disease in the vaccinated group is lower than in unvaccinated people.

Virus Cases Slow But States Struggle

By Allison Prang And Jennifer Calfas

U.S. coronavirus cases rose by 55,000, the slowest daily pace since July 7, as some states continued to struggle with a rising number of infections, hospitalizations and deaths.

The U.S. accounts for about a quarter of the more than 16.2 million cases world-wide, according to data compiled by Johns Hopkins University. The nation's death toll on Monday neared 147,000.

Nationally, deaths haven't surged in the same way that coronavirus cases have over the past month. The number of confirmed infections has jumped 69% since June 27, to more than 4.2 million cases from just over 2.5 million. During the same period, deaths increased by about 17%, from just over 126,000. Projections from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate fatalities could rise to between 160,000 and 175,000 by Aug. 15.

Higher case counts in the U.S. are partly attributable to expanded testing across the country, which is detecting more mild and moderate cases, particularly among young people. A patchwork of rules and regulations has contributed to the resurgence of infections.

But at the state level, the picture is more varied, and although many mild cases are being detected, hospitalizations and deaths are increasing in numerous places.

In Texas, the number of reported deaths has more than doubled over the past month, according to a Wall Street Journal analysis of data from Johns Hopkins. In Florida, they have increased by 75%. In more than 30 states, the seven-day average of deaths is outpacing the 14-day average of deaths, a signal deaths overall are increasing, rather than falling. The seven-day and 14-day averages smooth out anomalies that may be caused by reporting fluctuations.

Total coronavirus cases in Florida climbed above 432,000 Monday, surpassing New York's tally, and giving it the second-highest number of infections in the nation behind California, according to Johns Hopkins. Florida has reported more than 8,900 new cases a day since July 9, according to the Florida Department of Health. Deaths in the state have topped 5,930.

After saying it would change the methodology for reporting coronavirus deaths, the Texas Department of State Health Services reported nearly 700 additional coronavirus-related fatalities in the state. There have been a total of 5,713 fatalities in the hard-hit state thus far, according to death certificate data, the department said.

New infections and fatalities continued to increase in California, which reported 29 new deaths and 6,891 new cases for Sunday. But Gov. Gavin Newsom said the 14-day rate of positive tests held at 7.5%, the same as it was on Friday, and that the number of overall cases is increasing at a slower rate than it was two weeks ago.

"It's progress indeed, but more progress needs to be made," said Mr. Newsom.

DAVID J. PHILLIP/ASSOCIATED PRESS

People waited in line last month for free Covid-19 testing at the Mexican Consulate in Houston as the number of coronavirus cases in Texas climbed sharply.

Rising Infections Likely Will Hasten Studies

By Peter Loftus

Surging coronavirus cases in the U.S. and abroad may speed up the race to prove whether experimental vaccines are effective.

To demonstrate if a vaccine works, a certain number of study subjects must be exposed to the target virus so researchers can see if significantly fewer vaccinated subjects become sick compared with those who didn't get the shots.

When an outbreak wanes, it can take longer to tell if a vaccine is working. But the recent higher transmission rate for Covid-19 could shave weeks or even months off the timetable for getting final study results to mid- or late-fall, according to Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

"No one wants to see people get infected and suffer and even die," Dr. Fauci said in an interview. "But in fact, if that is occurring, we could get a vaccine answer to efficacy and safety much more quickly if we're doing it in a situation where there are a lot of infections."

More than 20 coronavirus vaccines are in human testing, according to the World Health Organization. So far, small, early studies of most advanced vaccines found they were generally safe and triggered immune responses but weren't designed to prove whether they actually protected people.

A series of large, final-stage trials are getting under way that, for the first time, will decisively test whether coronavirus vaccines prevent or reduce risk of Covid-19, including 30,000-person studies for vaccines from Moderna Inc. and from Pfizer Inc. and its partner, BioNTech SE, slated to start by the end of July.

The new studies will be "event-driven," which means researchers expect to learn whether the vaccines are working once a certain number of study subjects come down with Covid-19.

Initially, researchers thought it could take many months to accrue enough Covid-19 cases among study subjects to yield answers because lockdown measures slowed the spread of the virus and the hot summer weather threatened to slow it further.

Researchers have faced challenges testing experimental vaccines for past infectious-disease outbreaks for viruses such as Zika in 2016 because they waned too soon for the definitive testing.

Vaccine trials usually thrive in places where a disease is spreading rapidly.

But Covid-19 counts are rising in countries such as Brazil, Peru and South Africa. Cases also have flared in parts of the U.S. since mid-June. "Because of the bad situation in the U.S., we might actually get a very quick readout for vaccines," possibly in October, Moderna Chief Executive Stephane Bancel said in an interview.

Moderna's large study, which is being funded by the federal government, will have 13 sites in Texas, for instance, compared with only three in New York state, which was the center of the pandemic in the spring but has since seen a decline in cases.

For the study, researchers plan to start counting two weeks after administration of the second dose how many subjects get Covid-19 with symptoms. Researchers will take a look at how vaccinated subjects are faring compared with those getting a placebo at various points, first when there are 53 cases among all participants, and then at 106 and 151 cases, Moderna said.

Novavax Inc., which started the first human study of its experimental vaccine in Australia in May, is planning to run a larger U.S. study in places where the virus is surging, and is exploring the idea of testing it in countries including Brazil and South Africa, Gregory Glenn, president of research and development, said.

"A month ago, my group for sure was thinking the U.S. might not be a good place to do a trial because the disease could recede and come back in December," Dr. Glenn said. Now, "by all means we're going to target the areas where we know there's more disease."

AstraZeneca PLC, which is codeveloping a Covid-19 vaccine with the University of Oxford, was concerned that results for a large trial of their shot that started in the U.K. in May would be delayed because of declining infection rates there.

Now, AstraZeneca is counting on a big trial scheduled to begin in the U.S. in August to get quick results because of rising case counts. The company said its criteria for selecting study sites include places where there is a high amount of disease.

Google to Keep Staff Remote

Continued from Page One

sion himself last week after debate among Google Leads, an internal group of top executives that he chairs, according to a person familiar with the matter. A small number of Google staffers were notified later in the week, people familiar said.

Mr. Pichai was swayed in part by sympathy for employees with families trying to plan for uncertain school years that may involve at-home instruction, depending on geography. It also frees staff to sign full-year leases elsewhere if they choose to move.

"I know it hasn't been easy," Mr. Pichai wrote in a note to staff Monday, after The Wall Street Journal reported the impending extension. "I hope this will offer the flexibility you need to balance work with taking care of yourselves and your loved ones over the next 12 months."

The extended timeline applies to company employees in most of its major offices, including the headquarters of Mountain View, Calif., and other offices in the U.S., U.K., India, Brazil and elsewhere.

Until now, Google had told its employees to expect a return to the office beginning in January.

Silicon Valley technology companies were early to send workers home in March, and they have steadily pushed back the time frame. Google's move, however, takes it beyond many peers.

Microsoft Corp., for one, has told staff in cities such as New York that they may return to the office as soon as this fall. Salesforce.com Inc.'s remote work order expires at the end of the year. Apple Inc. opened, and then closed, some of its retail stores.

Facebook Inc. Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg has said he expects half of the social network's employees to work from home in the next decade.

The uncertainty has upended the housing market in the San Francisco Bay Area and elsewhere, as employees consider alternative living arrangements outside the expensive metropolitan areas where major employers are often based.

In New York City, only 8% of the employees who work in downtown office buildings managed by office colossus CBRE Group Inc. have returned from sheltering in place from the pandemic. The figure, as of last week, was based on unique card swipes at security turnstiles.

CBRE manages 20 million square feet of space in Manhattan.

Workplace experts say financial-services firms, especially those in businesses that require sophisticated trading floors and other technology that can't be replicated in most home offices, have a stronger incentive to return workers to offices.

"In a digital age, speed is key, and working from home will slow down the process," said Joseph Biasi, an analyst with data firm CoStar Inc.

The jobs at tech companies, on the other hand, may lend themselves more easily to remote working. "Collaboration is certainly important," Mr. Biasi said. "But a coder does not get a competitive advantage from receiving information quicker than a coder in another firm."

Some tech firms have been circumspect. October would be the earliest that Microsoft would reopen its New York offices, pandemic dependent. For now, "we continue to recommend that most employees work remotely," a Microsoft spokeswoman said last week.

Other companies haven't decided yet when to have workers return to the office.

A Twitter Inc. spokeswoman said the company doesn't have a definitive opening date and will return to only 20% capacity when it does.

Twitter has told employees they may work from home indefinitely if they choose.

Alphabet's Mr. Pichai has been interested in learning about the health and social ramifications of the novel coronavirus, even before health officials declared the virus's spread a global pandemic. He began reading research papers on the virus in January and spearheaded the initial March decision to close company offices.

Google has partially opened some smaller offices in countries relatively unaffected by the pandemic, such as Australia, Greece and Thailand.

Mr. Pichai wrote Monday, "We are still learning a lot from our experiences of working from home and will use that knowledge to inform our approach to the future of work at Google."

Virus Creeps Back Amid Missteps

Japan, Hong Kong and Australia see new waves of infections as regulations are relaxed

Australia reported only a handful of new coronavirus cases in early June, while Hong Kong went three weeks without a single locally transmitted infection that month. Japan already had lifted a state of emergency in May after the number of new cases dropped to a few dozen nationwide.

*By **Philip Wen** in Melbourne, Australia, and **Joyu Wang** in Hong Kong*

All three reported new high-water marks in daily infection numbers in the past week, showing how difficult it can be to keep the virus at bay, even in places lauded for taking early and decisive action.

The number of infections in these three spots are still small in comparison with the world's hardest hit countries, but the fresh waves demonstrate the tricky balancing act authorities face as they attempt to reopen their economies.

TYRONE SIU/REUTERS

A health worker collected a swab sample on Monday from a taxi driver at a makeshift Covid-19 testing station in Hong Kong.

One misstep quickly can undo the gains from weeks of closures, and public-health experts say some complacency and fatigue with social-distancing restrictions is inevitable during a long pandemic.

In Australia, the southeastern state of Victoria recorded 484 new cases on July 22, eclipsing a nationwide high set in March. By Monday, the state's daily infections had climbed to 532—with most in the capital, Melbourne. "We reported only two cases on June 9, less than six weeks ago," said Michael Kidd, Australia's deputy chief medical officer. Victoria has accumulated some 7,000 new cases since June 9.

The state's chief health officer, Brett Sutton, said this month it is conceivable that most, if not all, cases there could have stemmed from staff members failing to adhere to infection-control procedures at hotels housing travelers returning from overseas. Authorities haven't said what the nature of the protocol breaches were, but they are the subject of a judicial inquiry.

"We were so close to having eliminated it from the whole of Australia," said Adrian Esterman, professor of biostatistics at the University of South Australia. "We were a fingernail from doing it."

Japan has seen a similar resurgence. The seven-day average for daily new cases in Tokyo more than quadrupled this month to 258 as of Sunday. Across Japan, there were a record 981 cases recorded Thursday. The government has again moved to secure hotel rooms to quarantine the infected.

Officials said many of the new cases were young people linked to entertainment districts, and that more gatherings in general have contributed to the spread.

Asked about the second wave, a spokesman for Prime Minister Shinzo Abe referred to a statement Wednesday in which he defended the government's balancing of economic reopening and virus prevention. "The situation is significantly different from what we saw under the state of emergency in April," because most of the new cases involve young people and hospitals aren't overwhelmed, he said.

Facing the prospect of a protracted recession after a year of antigovernment protests followed by the pandemic, Hong Kong's government gave every adult permanent resident $1,290 to encourage people to spend and revive the economy.

On June 16, city authorities lifted restrictions on indoor gatherings, restaurants and gyms. New local infections ceased—until July 5. Since then, Hong Kong has racked up more than 1,300 new cases, 87% of them locally transmitted. Within days of the cash handouts reaching residents, renewed social distancing saw fresh closures or restrictions on gyms, bars and restaurants.

Epidemiology experts say they believe missteps by the government, such as exemptions for some foreign arrivals—including pilots, airline and cargo-ship crew—from testing or the 14-day mandatory quarantine, were factors in the latest wave of coronavirus. The city contained an initial outbreak brought by visitors from Wuhan, China, in late January, and then a second wave in March as people returned from overseas.

Hong Kong has tightened regulations following the latest outbreak—starting July 29, travelers from the U.S. will be added to a list of high-risk countries, requiring them to provide a negative test before flying and proof they have booked a hotel for their quarantine before boarding flights.

"The problem is we have a lot of exempted persons," said Leung Chi-chiu, chairman of the Hong Kong Medical Association's advisory committee on communicable diseases. Between April and mid-July, at least 161,000 arrivals in Hong Kong were exempted from testing and having to quarantine, official figures show.

—Miho Inada in Tokyo contributed to this article.

Malaysian Ex-Leader Guilty in Fund Case

By Chester Tay

Former Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak was found guilty Tuesday on charges of money laundering, abuse of power and criminal breach of trust stemming from events during his tenure as leader of the Southeast Asian nation.

Mr. Najib was convicted in a court in Kuala Lumpur on all seven charges he faced related to his involvement with a unit of the country's troubled state investment fund 1Malaysia Development Bhd, or 1MDB. Among other things, prosecutors alleged that Mr. Najib illegally received 42 million ringgit ($9.9 million) from the unit.

Mr. Najib was convicted on three counts of money laundering, three counts of criminal breach of trust and one count of abuse of power. The charges each carry maximum penalties ranging from 15 to 20 years in prison.

The former leader has previously denied wrongdoing.

Mr. Najib, who led Malaysia for a decade until his election loss in 2018, still faces multiple charges in a separate trial relating to alleged wrongdoing at 1MDB, which he also denies. U.S. investigators say more than $4.5 billion was stolen from the fund between 2009 and 2014 and laundered through a variety of bank accounts, giving rise to one of the largest financial scandals in history.

On Friday, Goldman Sachs Group said it would pay $2.5 billion to Malaysia for its role in the 1MDB scandal. Goldman raised $6.5 billion for 1MDB through three bond sales in 2012 and 2013, much of which U.S. authorities say was stolen by a Malaysian government adviser, Jho Low. Mr. Low's whereabouts is unknown.

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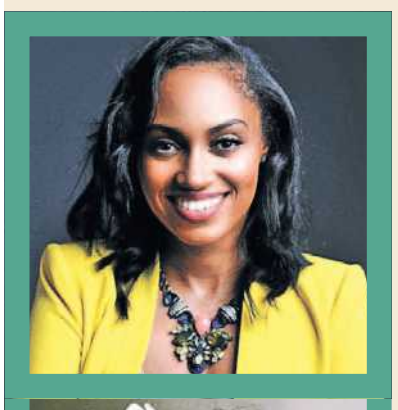

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Cases Surge in Spain, Threatening Tourism

U.K. imposes two-week quarantine on travelers arriving from the nation

A surge in new coronavirus cases in Spain is threatening the recovery of its vital tourism sector and underscoring the fragility of the country's hard-fought gains in bringing the virus under control, after being among the hardest hit in the West earlier this year.

*By **Giovanni Legorano** in Rome and **María Martínez** in Barcelona*

The increase in infections—and the U.K.'s abrupt decision to impose a two-week quarantine on travelers arriving from Spain—points to the economic costs if the virus begins to spread widely again as Europeans begin to shop, dine out and travel over the summer and fall following lengthy spring lockdowns.

Shares in European airlines fell sharply Monday after the British quarantine decision, with markets rattled by worries that the European tourist season—which had only recently started to recover—may suffer another hit. **EasyJet** PLC dropped 8%, Deutsche Lufthansa AG lost 5% and **Ryanair Holdings** PLC shed 3.9%.

TUI U.K., part of tour operator TUI, said it would cancel all holidays to mainland Spain until Aug. 9 because of the new quarantine requirements imposed on travelers returning from Spain, which the U.K. said was needed to stem a rise of infections there. It made its move after Spain's national health ministry reported 2,255 new cases on Friday, following its report of 2,615 new cases on Thursday. On Monday, Spain said new cases swelled to 6,361 between midday Friday and the same time Monday.

"I understand that it is disruptive for those who are going through this who are in Spain or who have been considering going to Spain but we must be able to take swift, decisive action to protect the U.K.," British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said in comments broadcast on Sky News on Sunday.

The Spanish government defended the country as a safe holiday destination where the epidemic is under control, and has been attempting to negotiate a quarantine waiver for British tourists returning from holidays in Balearic and Canary Islands, two popular destinations. The U.K.'s Department of Transport didn't respond to a request for comment.

"Spain is a safe country. Like other European countries it has new outbreaks. This isn't unusual," said Foreign Affairs Minister Arancha González on Sunday. "The most important thing is that Spain is making big efforts to control these outbreaks, a big effort to identify coronavirus cases."

Spanish health authorities are blaming the behavior of Spanish youths as one of the main reasons for the recent surge in new infections.

"Certain generations haven't remained vigilant," said Fernando Simón, director of the center for health alerts and emergencies at the Ministry of Health, referring to the increase in cases among young people attending social gatherings or taking part in the country's nightlife.

Mr. Simón added that other cases were imported by temporary workers or by international tourists.

JAIME REINA/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

British tourists check in for a flight to London at the airport in Palma de Mallorca on Monday.

The Spanish Health Ministry said that the situation hasn't differed from other countries.

"The virus isn't circulating only in Spain, but everywhere. In almost all countries around us there are outbreaks of major or minor relevance. What matters is keeping new cases under control," the ministry said in a reply to a request for comment.

Spain had high hopes that the peak tourist summer season would help recover some of its economic losses this year. The economy shrank by 17% in the second quarter of the year, according to European Union estimates, the worst contraction among the larger European countries. The tourism sector, which accounted for 14% of Spain's gross domestic product last year and provides a similar proportion of the country's jobs, was preparing for a rebound from the loosening of travel restrictions in the EU. That is now in jeopardy.

Hotel Yaramar on the coast of Spain's southern Andalusia region was among the businesses hoping to benefit. The four-star hotel opened last week after being shut for much of the year and of its 500 rooms, 19% were booked for the rest of July and 37% for August.

"The summer was going better than expected," said Alberto Pino, the hotel's restaurant manager.

The U.K.'s quarantine decision will likely stem the flow of guests. "We are a hotel centered on British tourists," Mr. Pino said, adding that 85% of their clientele comes from the U.K.

With summer hopes fading, the hotel is already refocusing on the winter season, when the share of British tourists typically rises to 90% as they escape the rain and cold of the U.K.

"The summer season is almost lost, but we hope we will have a stronger winter," Mr. Pino said.

—Valentina Pop in Brussels contributed to this article.

Nicaraguan Doctors Who Spoke Up Are Fired

By José de Córdoba

MEXICO CITY—Carlos Quant, an infectious-disease specialist at a Managua public hospital, was fired in early June after he organized a group of like-minded colleagues to tell Nicaraguans how to protect themselves from the new coronavirus.

Since then, at least an additional 21 doctors in Nicaragua—the second-poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, after Haiti—have been purged, losing their jobs in public hospitals across the country, according to testimony from doctors and medical associations. Two others resigned.

Doctors say the firings are retaliation by Nicaragua's authoritarian president, Daniel Ortega, and his wife, Vice President Rosario Murillo, for calling attention to the pandemic. Nearly all of the fired doctors, including Dr. Quant, signed public letters asking the government to confront the coronavirus threat and calling for protective equipment for health-care workers.

"The crime is raising your voice, calling for measures to contain the virus, and helping doctors to get protective equipment," says Dr. Quant, who was fired June 4 from the Roberto Calderón Hospital.

Human-rights groups such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights have protested the firings. Ninety writers, artists and intellectuals led by Peruvian Nobel Prize winner Mario Vargas Llosa wrote a letter to Mr. Ortega protesting the firings. "It's a crime to politicize medicine, especially in the middle of this terrible pandemic," the letter said.

The government has ignored the criticism. Neither Ms. Murillo, who serves as the spokeswoman for the government, nor Nicaragua's health ministry responded to requests seeking comment.

The offensive against doctors is only part of the Nicaraguan government's broader approach to the pandemic that health experts say has been secretive and erratic. Nicaragua didn't shut down, and the country didn't implement social-distancing measures. Its public schools and universities never closed—except for an extended midyear vacation. They reopened last week.

Officials in the governing Sandinista National Liberation Front party eschewed masks. And instead of banning mass gatherings, the government continued to promote festivals, sporting events and political rallies, including one in March called "Love in the Time of Covid-19," during which thousands of Sandinista supporters walked more than a mile on one of Managua's main avenues.

Since then, even as coronavirus cases and deaths have risen, the government has actively covered up the extent of the pandemic, and gone after those who try to counter its narrative, according to local doctors and health experts.

As of July 21, the Nicaraguan health ministry had reported 3,439 coronavirus infections and 108 deaths for the country of 6.5 million people. Doctors say the death figure is absurdly low. "I personally know 10 people who have died of Covid," says Leonel Argüello, an epidemiologist in Managua.

An independent organization, the Citizens' Covid-19 Observatory, made up of doctors and health workers, has kept its own tally from the records of hospitals and doctors. As of July 22, it listed 8,755 cases of suspected infection, and 2,487 deaths—roughly 23 times the official number of deaths. That would put Nicaragua's per capita death toll at 38 for every 100,000 people, the 13th-highest in the world.

Nicaragua hasn't allowed doctors from the Pan American Health Organization, the U.N.-affiliated group, to access hospitals. And it provides no information on the results of the tests it gives, making it impossible to have a clear idea of the state and path of the pandemic.

Doctors who were fired from hospitals for asking officials for protection against the coronavirus and warning the public about the disease protested last month before filing a demand for reinstatement. Below, infectious disease specialist Carlos Quant was among those fired.

FROM TOP: JORGE TORRES/EPA/SHUTTERSTOCK; SUMAYA MOREIRA

Health Workers Previously Targeted

In late March, pro-government media ran antimask proclamations. One, in the Sandinista newspaper Barricada, said: "The coup plotters have taken off their masks and put on their surgical masks." A pro-government radio announcer called Covid-19 "the Ebola of the rich and the white. A lot of rich people are dying."

In May, as deaths surged and criticism mounted, Nicaragua's government published a white paper accusing its domestic foes, allied with U.S. intelligence agencies, of waging a disinformation campaign to undermine the Ortega government. "They have seen in the pandemic a great opportunity to scare and misinform the people...and corrode confidence in the government," it said.

It isn't the first time that doctors have come under fire from the Ortega government. In 2018, more than 400 physicians, nurses and health workers were let go from jobs in public hospitals for taking care of Nicaraguans injured in protests against the Ortegas that at one point threatened to topple the regime. At least 300 people died in the protests, most of them killed by security forces.

"The regime considers the doctors to be coup plotters in white coats," says José Antonio Vásquez, a surgeon who was fired in 2018 in the wake of the protests. "They fired them to send a message to other doctors, to terrorize them: If you talk, you will lose your job."

The regime's approach to the pandemic has been secretive and erratic.

"We continue to be very concerned about Nicaragua's response to the coronavirus," the organization said.

For weeks in May and June, hospitals were overwhelmed. Nicaraguan cities became the scene of what are known as express funerals, in which bodies of Covid-19 victims were rushed to cemeteries in the middle of the night for quick, sparsely attended funerals.

During the past few weeks, the virus's upward curve appears to have leveled off, but the lack of reliable statistics makes it impossible to get a clear picture of the pandemic, local doctors and international health experts say.

In recent days, Mr. Ortega's government appears to have made a grudging nod to the grim realities of the coronavirus, which is widely believed to have killed a number of government officials and ruling-party members.

"They didn't take it seriously," says Dora María Téllez, who was once a Sandinista commander but is now an Ortega foe. She says about 200 government, security and party officials have died from Covid-19.

On July 19, Mr. Ortega wore a mask publicly for the first time since the start of the pandemic, as he presided over an outdoor gathering of about 800 Sandinista youths, who sat in a large circle far away from the leader. The gathering to mark the anniversary of the 1979 triumph over the late dictator Anastasio Somoza was a far cry from previous years, when as many as 300,000 people jammed together for the celebration.

A few days after Dr. Quant was fired in early June, María Lagos lost her job. Dr. Lagos says she was the only pediatric pulmonary specialist in Estelí, a city in northern Nicaragua that is experiencing a serious outbreak.

She has distributed protective equipment to personnel and patients at her hospital. Because masks were seen by the government as politically incorrect, Dr. Lagos says she was the only doctor at the San Juan de Dios Hospital using one. She says she was fired because she distributed masks. "They had prohibited the use of surgical masks because they said the virus only went after rich people, and it wasn't going to enter Nicaragua," she says.

Duterte Asks Xi For Access To Vaccine

By Niharika Mandhana

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said he has asked China for help in getting access to a coronavirus vaccine as governments around the world make arrangements to secure supply for their citizens ahead of what is expected to be a global scramble for the much-awaited shots.

In an address Monday, Mr. Duterte, who has favored close ties with Beijing, said he had made a plea to Chinese President Xi Jinping that the Philippines be one of the first to receive the doses if China has them. He also asked Mr. Xi to grant Manila credit to purchase vaccines for the Southeast Asian country of nearly 110 million people.

"How to get [vaccines] from the producers or from other governments is really something which we have to deal with because it's a global need and everyone will go for it," Mr. Duterte said.

A world-wide race is afoot to achieve the scientific breakthrough that would help countries immunize their populations and reap economic and geopolitical benefits.

State-owned China National Pharmaceutical Group, also known as Sinopharm, recently said clinical trials that began this month should be completed in roughly three months, paving the way for a vaccine to go to the market this year. The U.S. has agreed to pay Pfizer Inc. and BioNTech SE nearly $2 billion to secure 100 million doses of their experimental Covid-19 vaccine should it be approved by regulators.

More than 80,000 Covid-19 cases have been reported in the Philippines, whose economy is hurting from a strict lockdown and the global downturn. Mr. Duterte said Monday he would prioritize saving lives and hold off on measures such as reopening schools until a vaccine becomes available.

Officials in his administration said the country wants to make sure it can get vaccines no matter which global power is the first to make one available, including the U.S., whose relationship with the Philippines has grown more turbulent under Mr. Duterte.

Pandemic-linked factors in part drove Mr. Duterte to suspend his decision to end a key military pact with the U.S. His government announced the scrapping of the Visiting Forces Agreement, considered a cornerstone of the nations' alliance, in February, starting a 180-day period at the end of which the termination would take effect. In early June, however, Mr. Duterte suspended the termination for six months.

Russia, U.S. Differ On Space Security

By Michael R. Gordon

WASHINGTON—The U.S. and Russia on Monday held their first space-security talks since 2013, with the two sides wrestling with how to guard against the increasing militarization of space.

Trump administration officials hoped that the meeting in Vienna would lead to the establishment of a set of voluntary norms for operating in space and possibly a new communications channel to link space officials on each side.

But Russia has advocated a different approach: A formal treaty against the placement of weapons in space, reflecting Moscow's longstanding push to head off a potential U.S. effort to develop space-based antimissile defenses. That has left it unclear if the two sides can find common ground. Neither side issued a statement following the conclusion of the one-day meeting.

The U.S. military is heavily dependent on its intelligence and communications satellites. The two sides have been improving their military capabilities to operate in space and focusing on ways to reduce the vulnerability of their space assets. Last year, President Trump pushed Congress to establish a Space Force, a sixth branch of the U.S. military that remains under the jurisdiction of the Air Force.

Last week, the U.S. and Britain accused Russia of conducting an antisatellite weapons test on July 15 in which an orbiting Russian satellite fired a projectile near a Russian satellite. Russia's Defense Ministry denied the allegation.

In April, Russia tested a ground-based antisatellite system from its Plesetsk base in northern Russia. No target was destroyed in the April or July tests, which avoided dispersing debris in orbit.

Adding to Washington's concern, U.S. officials said in February that two Russian satellites had maneuvered near an American KH-11 spy satellite.

The two sides staked out their parallel approaches in the run-up to the meeting.

Christopher Ford, a senior State Department official, asserted that the sort of treaty Russia has proposed would be hard to verify and wouldn't cover Russia's ground-based antisatellite weapons. Rather, he said the goal should be to work out "norms of responsible behavior."

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said last week that Russia's goal remained a commitment on the "non-deployment of any kinds of arms in outer space."

Tenuous Truce Begins in Ukraine

By Thomas Grove

IRYNA RYBAKOVA/UKRAINIAN DEFENSE MINISTRY/REUTERS

A member of the Ukrainian military was posted on the front line near the town of Novotoshkivske in the Luhansk region on Sunday.

MOSCOW—A cease-fire between Ukrainian government forces and Russian-backed separatists took effect Monday, offering the prospect of an end to a slow-burning conflict that has claimed thousands of lives in Eastern Ukraine and become a flashpoint between Moscow and the West.

Presidents Vladimir Putin of Russia and Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine spoke hours before the armistice was scheduled to begin, their offices said. The settlement, negotiated last week by Ukraine, Russia and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, is the latest of several initiatives to end fighting that began in 2014 following the ouster of pro-Russian President Viktor Yanukovych.

Points of friction remain, including Russia's control of Ukraine's Black Sea peninsula of Crimea and Kyiv's resistance to holding elections in separatist strongholds of the east during a planned vote, jeopardizing the cease-fire's prospects for success.

With camps on both sides profiting politically from the fighting by playing to more extremist constituencies, and the coronavirus pandemic preventing face-to-face meetings between Messrs. Putin and Zelensky, the chances for enduring peace are slim, some analysts said.

"It's a little bit of a positive sign, but I wouldn't hold my breath," said Dmitry Trenin, director of the Carnegie Moscow Center.

The office of Mr. Zelensky, who came to power last year on a promise to end the conflict, called the cease-fire a breakthrough and said its successful implementation would put the two sides on track toward fulfilling other conditions of a peace plan set out in talks brokered by Germany and France in 2015.

Lt. Gen. Volodymyr Kravchenko, Kyiv's top military officer in eastern Ukraine, wrote on a military Facebook page that the deal indicated a real chance to end fighting on both sides, and that Ukrainian soldiers, "understanding the importance of the political agreements that have been achieved," would abide by the cease-fire.

He added that Ukrainian soldiers wouldn't be barred from opening fire to protect themselves—and that the separatists already had violated the cease-fire several times during its first day.

He emphasized, however, that the situation currently is under control.

Separatists in the breakaway Ukrainian territories in Donetsk and Luhansk called the Ukrainian officer's statement a provocation, the Russian news agency Interfax reported, quoting from a statement.

European authorities and the U.S. say the separatists largely have been supported by the Kremlin, which denies that it backs the them or has had troops and officers in eastern Ukraine.

> 'It's a little bit of a positive sign, but I wouldn't hold my breath.'

European officials praised the new cease-fire agreement and Pope Francis on Sunday said that he was praying for it to hold.

While any real easing of hostilities in eastern Ukraine would be welcomed by Europe and the U.S., it would be unlikely to lead to a significant detente between Kyiv and Moscow, which annexed Crimea in early 2014. Mr. Putin has stated Moscow would never return the Black Sea peninsula, a resolve that has drawn international condemnation, triggered sanctions against Moscow and helped strain ties with the U.S. to their worst since the Cold War.

Crimea and eastern Ukraine, to a lesser extent, have long had large Russian-speaking populations, and Moscow had sought support in both Ukrainian regions when Mr. Yanukovych's government was ousted and replaced by pro-European politicians.

In December, peace talks brought hopes for an end to the clashes. French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel brokered a meeting between Messrs. Putin and Zelensky in Paris. But the deal's implementation stalled as skirmishes and shelling continued across the front line, with each side blaming the other for the hostilities.

There is still further concern that the new deal could fray. In their conversation Sunday, Mr. Putin told Mr. Zelensky that a bill recently passed in Kyiv's legislature to hold local elections but excluding eastern Ukraine would be a sticking point and risked "putting settlement prospects in jeopardy."

Casualties Declined After U.S.-Taliban Pact

By Ehsanullah Amiri

KABUL—The number of civilian casualties from fighting in Afghanistan fell in the first half of the year after a pact between the U.S. and the Taliban meant to end America's longest war, as the United Nations pressed Kabul and the militants for peace talks.

Nearly 3,500 civilians were killed or injured from fighting in Afghanistan in the first six months of the year, the U.N. said in a report on Monday.

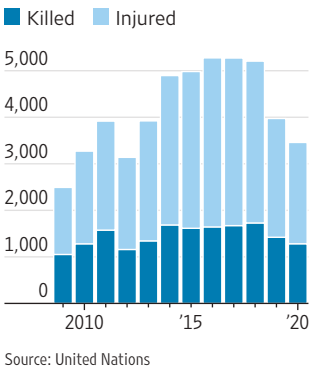
While the number of civilian casualties fell 13% from a year earlier, in part due to a reduction of operations by international forces, the U.N. said the Taliban and Afghan forces were the biggest cause of the overall toll.

"I urge the parties to pause...and to take decisive action to stop the carnage and get to the negotiating table," said Deborah Lyons, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Afghanistan.

The U.N. report comes after the U.S. and the Taliban signed a historic deal in February meant to end the war and pave the way for Afghan factions to resolve their differences after nearly two decades of conflict.

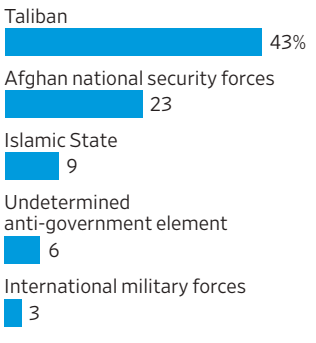
As part of that deal, the U.S. already is drawing down its troops in Afghanistan. But the second phase of negotiations between the Afghan government and the Taliban has been delayed, mostly due to disagreements about an exchange of prisoners. Kabul has been reluctant to free hundreds of militants it says are too dangerous, prompting a sharp increase in fighting in recent weeks.

Civilian casualties in Afghanistan, first half of each year



Source: United Nations

Percentage of casualties attributed to each group, first half of 2020



The U.S. on Friday dispatched its top Afghanistan envoy, Zalmay Khalilzad, to Kabul and several other cities to press for a resolution of the remaining issues ahead of intra-Afghan negotiations, specifically final prisoner exchanges and reduced violence, according to the U.S. State Department.

The U.N. report documented 3,458 civilian casualties in the first half of 2020, including 1,282 killed and 2,176 injured. It said the Taliban were responsible for 43% of all casualties in this period, while government forces caused 23% of the toll, mainly from airstrikes and indirect fire during ground operations.

The Taliban rejected the U.N. findings and called it biased. "The cause of civilian casualties are bombardments and rocket attacks by Kabul administration and Americans on civilian homes," said Zabiullah Mujahid, a Taliban spokesman.

The Afghan government, in a statement, blamed the Taliban for a "vast majority of the civilian casualties."

CHINA

U.S. Staff Clears Out Of Chengdu Mission

At dawn on Monday, as the deadline to leave the U.S. consulate in the southwestern Chinese city of Chengdu approached, staff were still trickling out with briefcases, just minutes before the U.S. flag was lowered in the courtyard.

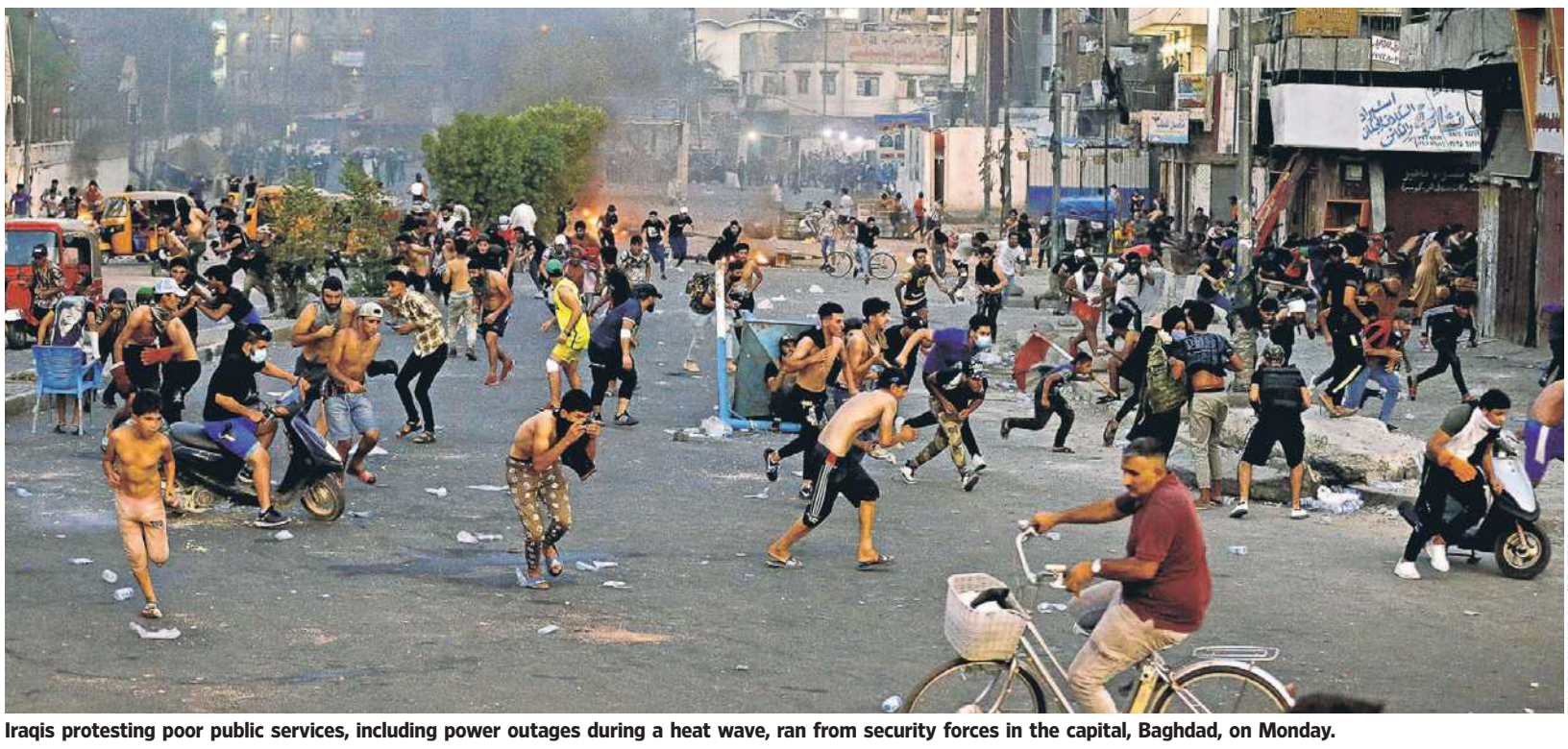
Chinese authorities said the Americans had vacated at 10 a.m., making the consulate the latest casualty in the rapidly deteriorating relations between the world's two largest economies.

Immediately after the handover, Chinese officials pulled up outside the front entrance in a minibus and entered the compound after the last consulate staffer had cleared out, according to videos published by Chinese newspaper People's Daily.

Chinese workers approached the building, using a white-grey shroud to cover the words "Consulate General of the United States of America" that were embossed on the exterior walls surrounding the outpost.

On Friday, China gave the U.S. diplomats and staff 72 hours to clear out of the building. A foreign ministry spokesman said the closure was a response to the U.S. shutting the Chinese consulate in Houston. U.S. officials say the Chinese consulate in Houston had been involved in espionage and intellectual property theft.

—Liza Lin



THAIER AL-SUDANI/REUTERS

Iraqis protesting poor public services, including power outages during a heat wave, ran from security forces in the capital, Baghdad, on Monday.

IRAQ

Government Orders Probe of Killings

Iraq's prime minister said he has ordered an investigation into the killing of two antigovernment protesters, saying security forces were not authorized to fire "a single bullet" toward the demonstrators. Twenty-one protesters were wounded in the overnight clashes.

The violence comes after months of quiet in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, and was an embarrassment to Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi, who has vowed to meet protester demands by holding early elections and investigating the deaths of hundreds of protesters at the hands of security forces in recent months.

Tensions between the security forces and the demonstrators soared Sunday when protesters cut the road connecting two main intersections—Tayaran Square and Tahrir Square—in Baghdad. Some burned tires while others chanted slogans about power cuts in the scorching summer months.

Iraq is facing electricity shortages amid searing summer temperatures that can top 50 degrees Celsius, or about 122 degrees Fahrenheit.

—Associated Press

ISRAEL

Troops Exchange Fire With Hezbollah

Israel's military said its forces and Hezbollah exchanged fire on Israel's border with Lebanon, ratcheting up tensions as Israel presses a campaign to rout the influence of Iran and its allies on its frontiers.

A Hezbollah cell of between three and five people attempted to cross into Israel, according to Israel's military. Soldiers fired on the group after it crossed the Blue Line separating Israel and Lebanon. Israel's military said there were no Israeli casualties.

Hezbollah in a statement denied the accusations and said it didn't attack Israel and that the group didn't suffer any casualties. The militant group and political party vowed to respond to Israel's shelling of south Lebanon.

—Felicia Schwartz

FROM PAGE ONE

New York Rats Have A New Foe

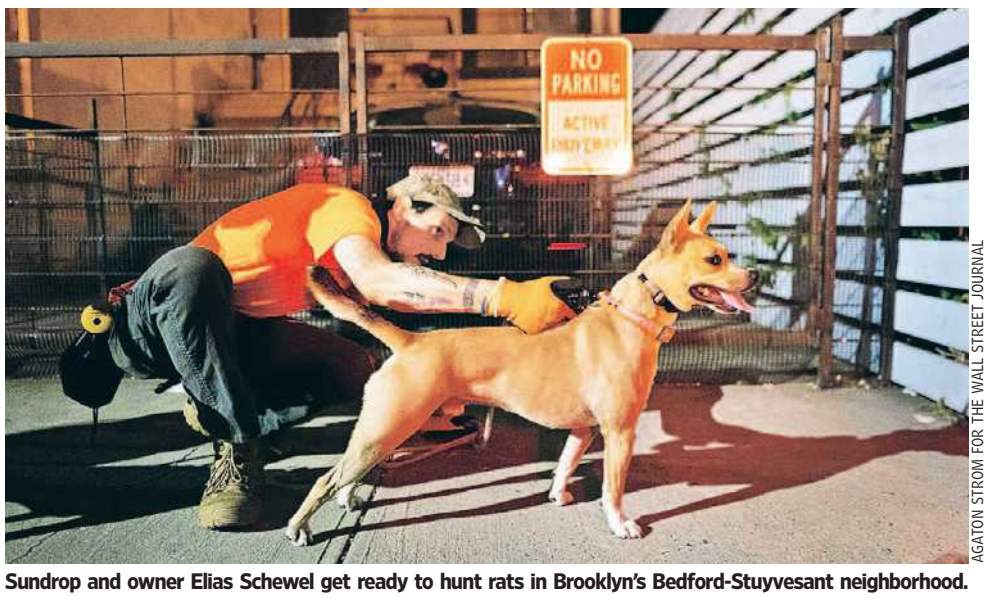
Continued from Page One

said. "I can come and kill 10 rats. There are still going to be 100 more the next day."

Experts say millions of rats live in the Big Apple—though there is no reliable census. The city's shutdown over the coronavirus pandemic and its subsequent reopening has thrown the rat population into disarray, with rodents venturing farther afield in search of food. Meanwhile, the city recently reduced trash pickup services in rat-mitigation zones, as part of sweeping budget cuts for the next fiscal year, prompting fears their numbers will grow.

The Department of Sanitation said it remains committed to keeping the city healthy, safe and clean. The Health department said it doesn't recommend hunting rats, and instead residents should use rat-proof trash cans and remove debris, food and water to address infestations.

Some New Yorkers still want extra help from Sundrop.



AGATON STROM FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Sundrop and owner Elias Schewel get ready to hunt rats in Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood.

Valarie Lambson, who lives in Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant, has gotten used to stomping her feet whenever she leaves home at all times of the day to ward off rats. She prefers to walk in the middle of the street to avoid them near the trash bags piled on the sidewalk for pickup.

Ms. Lambson reached out to Mr. Schewel, 35 years old, after she discovered him and his hobby from a post he made in her neighborhood Facebook group—he was asking for recommendations on where to go to find a lot of rats. She let him know he would be busy on her block.

She was skeptical of Sundrop's abilities, until she watched him run down a rat a few months ago. "You read a lot of things on Facebook," the 62-year-old assistant secretary said. "I wasn't really a believer. That's why I went downstairs and I actually saw it."

Now that Mr. Schewel and Sundrop have made a few rounds, Ms. Lambson said she's starting to feel a little more comfortable walking down her block. "Those rats that got away, they went and informed the other ones, 'Don't go outside,' " she speculated. "I haven't seen them in awhile, but I'm still cautious."

Mr. Schewel started hunting last year, after watching some YouTube videos and finding that other people did this. His first task was to adopt a dog that could hunt. He found Sundrop—a mix of Boston Terrier, American Bulldog, Australian Cattle Dog, Chihuahua, and other breeds—in a shelter, already about a year old. He played with him and threw a ball to test his boldness and drive to chase things.

The real training came from joining a pack. Mr. Schewel began hunting with the Ryders Alley Trencher-Fed Society, or R.A.T.S., which started about 30 years ago. (The alley is a favorite rat-filled area, and "trencher fed" is a hunting term used for hounds that are cared for individually and brought together as a pack on hunting days.)

Richard Reynolds, the founder of R.A.T.S., said he has noticed the rats have changed some of their patterns since the shutdowns. "We have to work a little harder to catch them because we have to find out where they are," Mr. Reynolds, 76, said. "My dream in life is a dead-end alley that's overrun with rats."

Mr. Reynolds, who lives in Tenafly, N.J., with six dogs—terriers and dachshunds—said R.A.T.S. has a mailing list of about 65 people, with a few core members that hunt together regularly. He said they cut the usual team of eight people—each with one dog—to five or six for social distancing.

A favorite destination is the Lower East Side. The hunters meet there with their dogs, and go from trash pile to trash pile. Some of the dogs dig into the trash to drive the rats out, and others wait on the perimeter to run them down.

Mr. Schewel recently parted ways with the group. Now working alone, he has been hunting more frequently, gathering up Sundrop's kills to drop off in front of Gracie Mansion, the New York City mayor's residence, in what he describes as a protest against police brutality. A spokeswoman for the mayor declined to comment.

Mr. Schewel is trying to build his own crew of hunting-dog owners.

One interested party is Laura Shedd, whose dog, Zulu, a mix that might have some Treeing Tennessee Brindle in his background, has a proclivity for chasing squirrels in parks. The 56-year-old higher-education administrator said she was intrigued by the idea of hunting rats as the pest infestation on her block has worsened.

She went out with Mr. Schewel to watch him and Sundrop work, but left Zulu at home since he didn't have the necessary vaccines. The biggest danger for dogs is contracting leptospirosis, a bacterial infection rats can transmit.

"I love all mammals. I am a nature person," Ms. Shedd said. "I think mice and rats are as adorable as every other furry creature. But they are really out of control."

Grocers Go Into Milk Bottling

Continued from Page One

this month.

Adding to the industry's pressures, milk's luster has been slowly fading for years in an increasingly crowded beverage market. Many consumers have switched to bottled water and juice, or dairy alternatives made from almonds or oats; breakfast cereal has fallen out of favor.

At the farmer level, about 3,300 dairy-cow herds disappeared in 2019, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, following low milk prices, tensions with export customers and processing-plant closures across the country. Wisconsin alone lost about 600 herds over the 12 months up to June 1, the cows typically either sold to another farmer or sent to slaughter.

Although overall dairy demand, factoring in products such as yogurt, butter and cheese, continues to grow, annual per capita U.S. milk consumption has dropped about 40% over four decades.

Faced with the coronavirus and stay-at-home orders, pantry-stocking consumers this spring pushed up milk sales at retail for the first time in a decade. Overall demand dropped as restaurants and hotels closed, according to agricultural lender Rabobank.

For the supermarket chains, milk still has much appeal. They know that shoppers who come for a jug of milk tend to stay and buy other items.

Milk still regularly ranks among the top 10 purchases at Walmart's stores, according to people familiar with operations of the biggest U.S. food retailer.

Dean Foods was one of Walmart's largest milk suppliers for decades. Executives of the retailer known for its low prices regularly pushed Dean to squeeze down milk costs.

A Dean milk-processing plant in Louisville, Ky., tweaked equipment to make plastic bottles that weighed 57 grams instead of 60, saving about half a cent on each gallon, said plant workers and labor-union officials.

The Louisville plant was processing as much as 1.2 million gallons of milk a week, 70% of it going to 130 Walmart stores in four states. "We did whatever we had to do to make sure we kept them," said Scott James, who worked as a maintenance technician at Louisville.

Around 2012, Walmart suggested that Dean run a separate bottling plant to produce milk for the chain's store brand, called Great Value, according to people involved in the discussions. The two didn't reach an agreement.

When U.S. milk prices broadly declined in early 2015, Walmart expected Dean to lower its own prices so that Walmart could make more profit on dairy, as often happens with commodity-based products, according to a person close to the discussions.

MARK HERTZBERG/ZUMA PRESS

A Dean Foods driver makes a delivery in Racine, Wis. The company was sold after coming under pressure in a shifting dairy industry.

Dean declined. Gregg Tanner, its chief executive at the time, was preparing to unite Dean's regional milk brands, such as Garelick Farms and Mayfield Dairy, under a new national label, DairyPure. Dean said it intended to hold the prices of its branded milk where they were.

Walmart dairy managers were skeptical of Dean's strategy. They believed their customers were differentiating less and less among milk brands—between store brands and premium milks that could cost up to twice as much.

At one point, the price gap slowed sales of Dean's branded milk so much that Walmart dropped it from some stores. Dean put up billboard ads near Walmarts, hoping shoppers would go in and ask for Dean's brands, former Dean employees say.

Bigger farms

All the while, the dairy farms and milk cooperatives that supply milk to the processors were getting bigger and more professional. By 2017, the eight largest dairy cooperatives were marketing 54% of the country's milk. To Walmart, buying milk directly from them, then processing and bottling the milk itself, started to look like a feasible cost-saving move.

Walmart announced in March 2016 it would build a milk-processing plant of its own in Fort Wayne, Ind., to supply more than 600 Walmart and Sam's Club stores in the eastern Midwest.

Dean executives figured the move would siphon away about 100 million of the 2.6 billion gallons a year it sold. Mr. Tanner told investors that Dean's financial performance wouldn't be hurt by Walmart's move into bottling.

Workers at the Dean plant in Louisville took a darker view. "We knew it was the death knell" for the plant, said John Stovall, president of Teamsters Local 783.

At the end of that year, Mr. Tanner stepped down as Dean's CEO, and operations chief Ralph Scozzafava took over. The new boss paid several visits to Walmart executives. One argument he made was that running a bottling plant wasn't a good use of the retailer's resources.

Mr. Scozzafava didn't respond to requests for comment. Mr. Tanner has died.

Walmart pushed ahead to finish the plant, and Dean girded for the impact by planning cost cuts. In the middle of 2017, with the volume of its DairyPure milk sold down by an estimated 7.5% over a year, Dean closed a bottling plant in Virginia.

Joe Kelsay, a sixth-generation Indiana farmer whose cows had supplied milk to Dean's Louisville plant for a quarter-century, opened a letter from Dean in March 2018. It said that Dean was terminating his contract, forcing him to find a new buyer for the milk from his 500 dairy cows. "It was a bit of a gut punch," Mr. Kelsay said.

Food Lion, which has more than 1,000 stores on the East Coast, ended its contract with Dean in early 2018 after disagreements over pricing, people familiar with their negotiations said. That cost Dean sales that analysts estimated at another 50 million gallons of milk a year.

Food Lion started purchasing milk from a rival grocery retailer, Kroger, that owned its own milk-processing plants. Kroger, which was early to move into the bottling business, processes roughly 90% of the milk its stores sell.

Dean made plans to close milk-processing plants in Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Michigan, Illinois and Georgia. Workers at Dean's decades-old processing plant in Louisville circulated Google Earth images of the Walmart plant under construction in Indiana and joked grimly about how long it was to doomsday, said Mr. James, the maintenance technician.

Before the month was out, his manager gathered workers to tell them the Louisville plant would be winding down.

A few weeks later, Walmart opened its bottling plant in Fort Wayne, adding hundreds of jobs and boosting Indiana dairy farmers who secured supply deals with it.

"This work is an example of how we are always finding efficiencies within the supply chain to deliver on our commitments to everyday low prices and high quality groceries," said a Walmart spokeswoman, Delia Garcia.

By operating its own plant, Walmart is reducing costs and passing down lower prices to customers, Ms. Garcia said. She added that the retailer's technology and logistics system cuts delivery time to stores and extends milk's shelf life.

Mr. Kelsay, the Indiana farmer, and his brother Russ debated what to do with their cows' milk. Although Walmart's new facility would buy milk directly from local farmers and cooperatives, farmer contracts had already been signed.

Mr. Kelsay didn't want to be the one to take his family out of dairy farming after more than 180 years. He hit the phones looking for a milk buyer. One problem was that other farmers who had lost their business with Dean were also looking.

More than a dozen potential milk buyers turned Mr. Kelsay down. Only one offered to buy his milk, and at a price a fifth lower than Dean had paid.

"The glimmer of hope continued to subside," he said.

In August 2018, Dean reported a quarterly net loss and reduced its financial outlook. Its plant closures now were coming so fast they created new problems. In Lynn, Mass., where the company was winding down a processing plant, milk deliveries rerouted to another Dean plant created logjams.

For sale

In February 2019, Dean's board, meeting before reporting another quarterly loss, voted to explore options including a sale of the company.

In November, Dean filed for bankruptcy protection. It began sale talks with Dairy Farmers of America, a large milk-producer cooperative, which in February agreed to buy Dean. John Wilson, an executive of the cooperative, said grocery chains that run their own plants often also need milk from other suppliers, including Dairy Farmers of America.

By then, prices of milk were higher, pushing up costs for dairy processors. Supplies were down because thousands of dairy farmers had quit.

Among them was Mr. Kelsay. After failing to find a new buyer for the cows' milk, he and his brother sold their herd to another farm in November 2018, followed the next spring by their remaining calves and the last of their milking equipment.

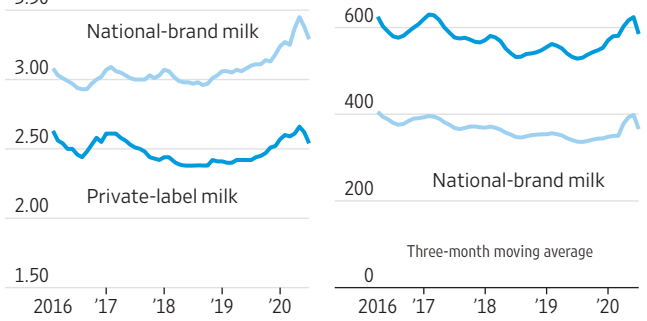
Today, their 2,100-acre operation, called Kelsay Farms, grows only crops such as corn, soybeans and wheat. They went from 12 full-time employees to one.

Mr. Kelsay said he lost part of his identity when his herd was loaded onto trucks.

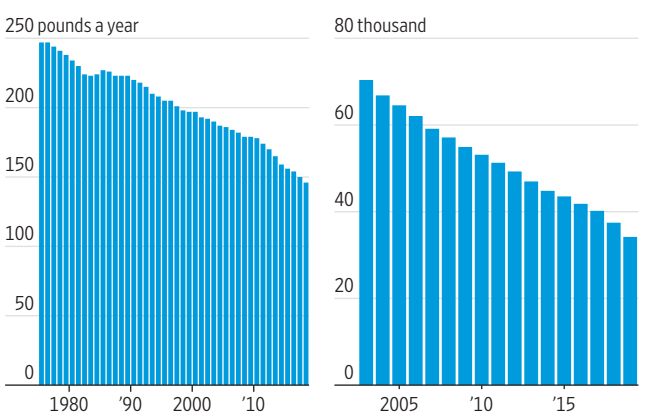
"We cried as we watched the cows," he said. "It was like a death in the family. You had to choose to stop life support."

Milk Run

In both price and sales volume, private-label milk is gradually extending its advantage over national brands.



While milk has been in a long-term decline.



Sources: Nielsen (price, sales); U.S. Department of Agriculture (consumption, herds)

GREATER NEW YORK

City Aims to Shorten Testing Wait Times

Strategies have brought the average down to a few days for many, mayor says

By Shan Li

Officials in New York City are scrambling to improve wait times for coronavirus tests—crucial to keeping the pandemic at bay as the city reopens and New Yorkers flock back to public spaces.

The city has encouraged residents to get tested as part of an ambitious tracing program to locate, isolate and track anyone who might have come into contact with those stricken with Covid-19. More than 30,000 people have been tested on some days in the city, but slow results have prompted New Yorkers to complain online about delays of up to two weeks.

Austin Tierney, a 25-year-old product manager, said he was tested twice after returning from trips out of New York state. The first time, in late June, took nine days to return a negative for Covid-19. "It was pretty useless," he said.

Mr. Tierney was tested again last week at **Housing Works**, a nonprofit social-services group, near his home in downtown Brooklyn. That came back in two days.

"That result coming back was pretty helpful," Mr. Tierney said. He felt safe spending time with friends, he said, secure in the knowledge that he wasn't endangering anyone.

On Friday, Mayor Bill de Blasio acknowledged in a radio interview with WNYC that turnaround times "got really bad for a week or two" as many parts of the country buckled under a surge of infections. New York state and other parts of the Northeast have stood out in recent weeks as the only U.S. region to avoid a big rise in cases in June and July. But future containment efforts depend largely on expansive and quick testing, health experts say.

30K

Number of people who have been tested some days in NYC

"A lot of labs that we had depended on were being overwhelmed by demand from other places," Mr. De Blasio said. But the city has implemented strategies to speed up the process, he said, which has brought the average down to a few days for many people.

"We think we have now stabilized it," he said. The city, once a hot spot for the virus, had as of Sunday a total of about 220,500 positive cases and nearly 23,500 confirmed and suspected deaths related to Covid-19.

New York state reported 536 new Covid-19 cases on Monday out of 53,568 total tests for a positivity rate of 1%, Gov. Andrew Cuomo said at a news conference, as the state's total ticked up to more than 412,300 cases and more than 25,000 deaths.

The lab strategies include what is known as "pooling"—running a group of samples at the same time, and only testing individual samples if the overall batch comes back positive, said Ted Long, head of the city's Test and Trace Corps.

Quest Diagnostics is the city's biggest player, processing 26% of all the tests in the city, said Avery Cohen, a spokesman for the mayor. He called the national lab company, "the outlier that is driving the average up."

Quest Diagnostics said the virus's spread to many parts of the U.S. has "strained our testing capacity and extended delays for test results." The company said it has the capacity to perform as many as 135,000 molecular diagnostic tests a day and is "working to increase that to 150,000 tests a day by next week."

For now, 75% of those in the city who get tested get their results in under eight days, Mr. Cohen said. One quarter of tests are returned within a day, he said. Wait times recently have been cut by half, to a median time of two days.

Some New Yorkers like Paul Dobrowsky were pleasantly surprised by the turnaround speed. The 29-year-old Manhattan resident was tested in mid-July for both Covid-19 and antibodies. The antibody result came back as negative in 17 hours, and the nasal swab test came back negative in 44 hours, he said. "It was pretty great," he said.

The city is getting a handle on testing as the state keeps an eye on increasing cases elsewhere in the U.S., which could hurt New York's progress in curbing the spread of the virus, Mr. Cuomo said.

—Joseph De Avila contributed to this article.

Lawmaker Calls for Covid-19 Memorial

By Katie Honan

A Manhattan councilman is calling for a memorial to honor the estimated hundreds of coronavirus victims buried in New York City's potter's field.

City Councilman Mark Levine, a Democrat who represents upper Manhattan, is expected to introduce a bill Tuesday that would create a task force to plan a Covid-19 memorial for Hart Island.

For more than 100 years, unclaimed bodies and low-income New Yorkers who couldn't afford other burial accommodations have been interred on the island, which is off the coast of the Bronx.

"Hundreds of victims of Covid are buried without anything marking their names, without—until now—the opportunity for any form of ceremony at the burial sites, and it's a place that largely exists outside of the public consciousness of most New Yorkers," Mr. Levine said.

The memorial would honor the unknown number of Covid-19 victims buried on the island, and also could jumpstart the creation of memorials to other victims there as well, he said.

In New York City, 23,500 people have died from the virus, including probable deaths, as of Monday.

At the peak of the virus, the week of April 6 through April 10, 138 people were buried on Hart Island, according to a spokesman for the Department of Correction, which manages the island. The cause of death for each person isn't known, but the number of burials increased dramatically during the pandemic.

Previously, the agency typically buried about 25 people a week there, he said.

A spokeswoman for the chief medical examiner's office didn't respond to an email seeking comment.

Under the bill, the task force would include appointees from the city's cultural affairs and parks departments, the mayor, and the speaker of the city council. At least one of the council's appointees would be someone who lost a family member to Covid-19 and whose family member is buried on Hart Island, according to the legislation.

A spokesman for Mayor Bill de Blasio didn't respond to requests for comment.

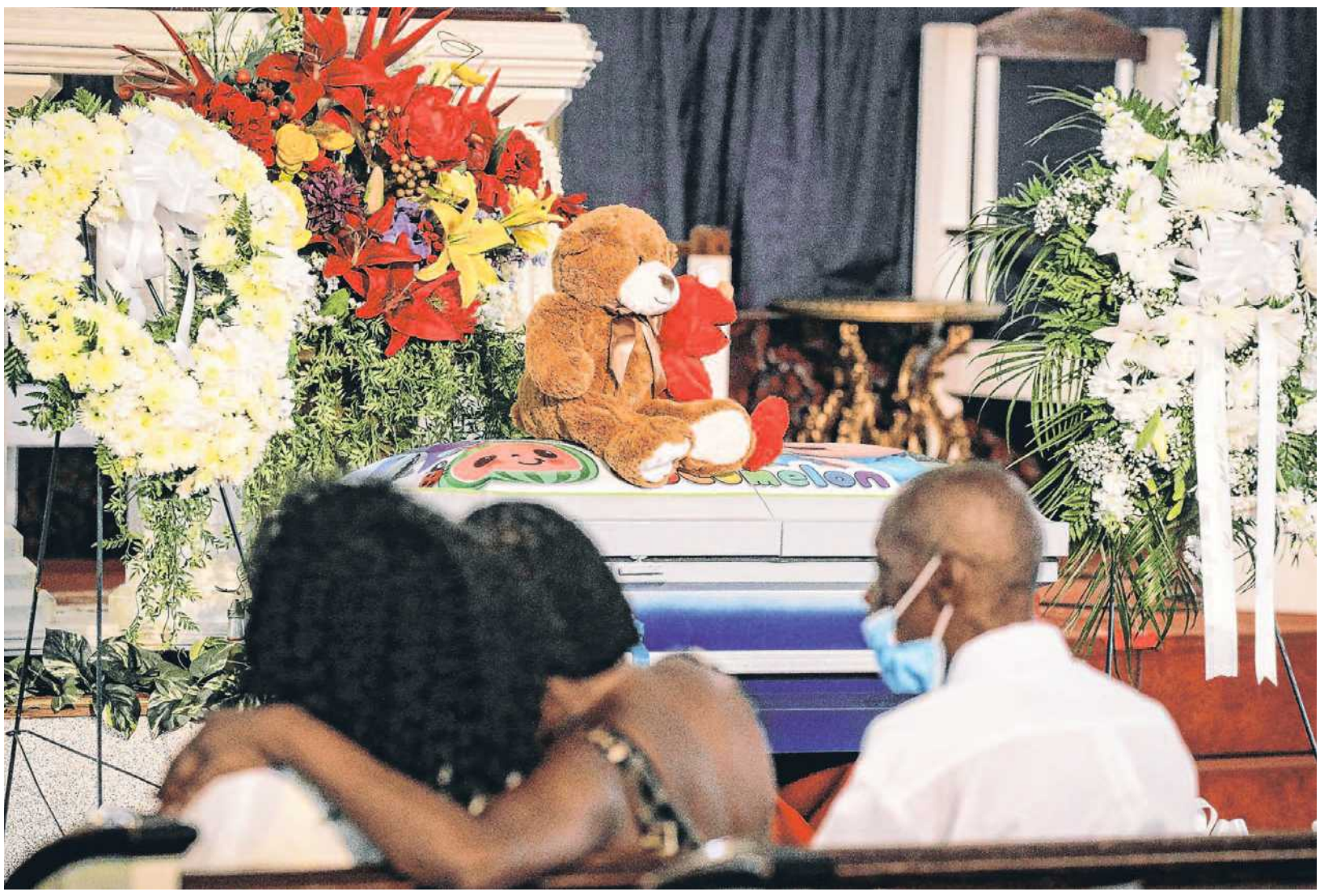
Michele H. Bogart, a historian who has written books about New York City's public art, said she understands the impulse to commemorate the coronavirus pandemic, given the number of those who died. But the process can be complicated, she said.

"An endeavor like this has to be done in a deliberate way, a thoughtful way, and include people with expertise," she said.

Mr. Levine's bill is specifically to facilitate the creation of a memorial on Hart Island, and he doesn't think it will be the only memorial to the deadly pandemic in the city.

"A calamity of this scale will undoubtedly deserve multiple memorials," he said.

A Sad Farewell to a Baby Boy Killed in a Brooklyn Shooting



BRENDAN MCDERMID/REUTERS

LITTLEST VICTIM: Family members grieved before a funeral service Monday for 1-year-old Davell Gardner at the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Brooklyn. Davell was struck by a stray bullet as he sat in his stroller when gunmen opened fire during a July 12 barbecue at a park in the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood.

Few Workers Are Returning to Their Offices

By Peter Grant

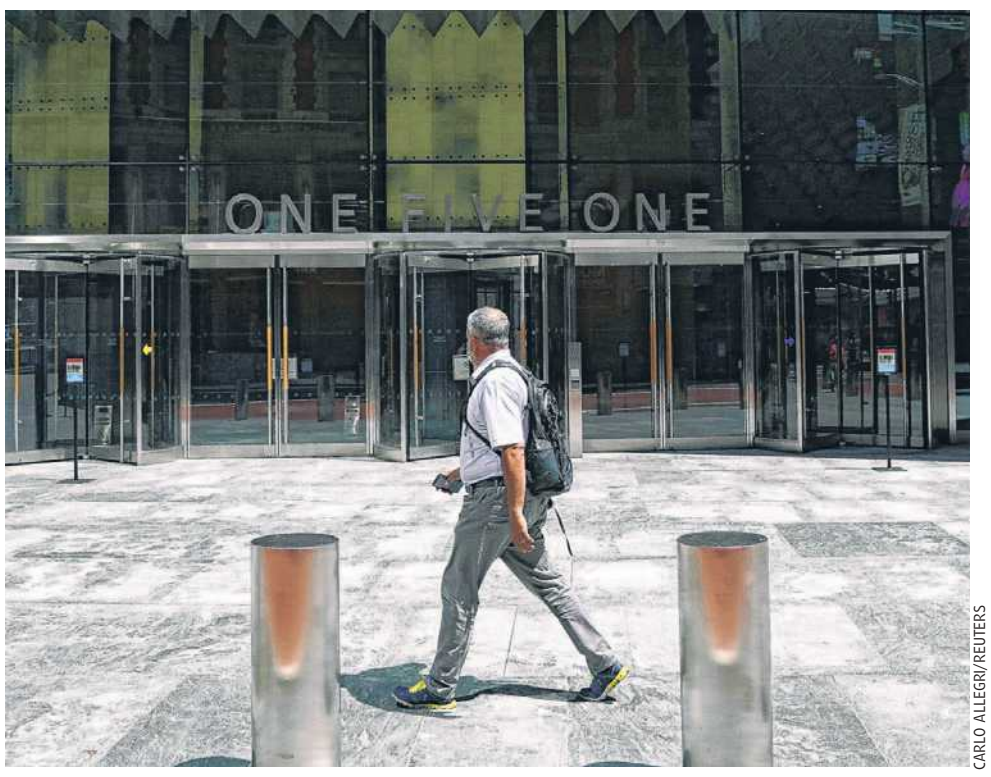
Less than one-tenth of Manhattan office workers have returned to the workplace a month after New York gave businesses the green light to return to the buildings they vacated in March, according to the city's leading landlords, brokerage firms and employers.

Major financial institutions such as **Citigroup** Inc. and JPMorgan Chase & Co. have allowed only a small number of traders, bankers and other employees to return to the workplace. Technology firms have been even more tentative, with companies like Facebook Inc. telling employees they can continue working from home through the end of 2020.

As of last week, only 8% of the employees who work in downtown office buildings managed by CBRE Group Inc. had returned from sheltering in place from the pandemic. The figure, based on unique card-swipes at security turnstiles, was 9% in Midtown. CBRE, the world's largest commercial real-estate services firm by revenue, manages 20 million square feet of space in Manhattan.

William Rudin, the head of one of the city's most prominent real-estate families, said that an average of 10% of workers have returned to the company's 10 million square feet of space in New York. "People are being rightfully careful," he said. But he noted that more than a month ago that figure was only 2% and that many office workers are eager to return to the social interaction of their offices. "Slowly people are coming back to work," Mr. Rudin said.

After three months of lockdown, New York City allowed companies to reopen their offices to nonessential workers in late June because Covid-19 cases and deaths were declining. While most businesses are cautious, some have been faster to implement return-to-the-office plans than others.



CARLO ALLEGRI/REUTERS

Fear of the pandemic is keeping many employees working from home. Outside a Times Square building.

Financial services giant JPMorgan Chase has kept occupancy of its Manhattan office space at about 20% in most locations, and no building is expected to exceed 50% at this point. About half of its sales and trading teams have returned.

On the other end of the spectrum are most big tech firms. For example, October would be the earliest that **Microsoft** Corp. would reopen its New York office and that will depend on the severity of the pandemic at the time.

Workplace experts say financial-services firms, especially those in businesses that require sophisticated trading floors and other technology that can't be replicated in most home offices, have a stronger incentive to return workers to offices. "In a digital age, speed is key and working from home will slow down the process," said Joseph Biasi, an analyst with data firm CoStar Inc.

A fuller return will hinge on whether schools reopen to in-person learning.

The jobs at tech firms, on the other hand, lend themselves more easily to remote working. "Collaboration is certainly important," Mr. Biasi said. "But a coder does not get a competitive advantage from receiving information quicker than a coder in another firm."

Some big New York employers that gave workers the option to return to the workplace have gotten few takers. Telecommunications giant **Verizon Communications** Inc. gave its workforce of about 4,000 office workers in the city the option on July 6 of returning to their offices as long as strict rules were followed, according to John Vazquez, Verizon's head of real estate.

Among the rules: No office can have more than 25% occupancy. Workers who return have to follow safety instructions and fill out health assessments with Verizon's human-resources department.

Not surprisingly, very few workers have taken Verizon up on its offer. "The purpose to go in would be to work with other people," Mr. Vazquez said. "But they're not all going to be there. So what would be the purpose of going in?"

Many of the city's big employers say they are going to begin returning workers to offices in September after Labor Day. A spokeswoman for the law firm **Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson** LLP said: "Formal return will be after Labor Day and will be phased to maintain limited capacity and social distancing."

Other firms haven't decided when to have workers return to the office. "We don't have a definitive opening date," a **Twitter** Inc. spokeswoman said. "Our offices don't open before September and whenever we do come back it will be at 20% capacity."

"We've told employees that if they're in a role and situation that allows them to work from home they can continue to do so forever if they want," she added.

Workplace experts say that most office workers are confident that their employers are being sensitive to health concerns and are making improvements in design and technology that make their workplaces safe. But many remain reluctant to risk a trip to the office, especially if that means taking subways, buses or commuter rail, the experts said.

A fuller return also will hinge on whether schools reopen to in-person learning. New York officials are discussing the possibility of reopening schools for two or three days a week. But, if that is the case, Mr. Vazquez warned, many office workers will stay home. "That's not enough for working parents," he said.

BEST HOSPITALS
U.S.News & WORLD REPORT
HONOR ROLL
2020-21

AMAZING THINGS ARE HAPPENING HERE

COLUMBIA
DEDICATION
#4
LEADER
COMPASSION
WEILL CORNELL MEDICINE
TEAMWORK
HERE FOR ALL
IN THE NATION
PATIENTS & COMMUNITY-FIRST
COVID CRISIS
EXPERIENCED
PERSEVERANCE
DETERMINED
FIGHTING INEQUALITY

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Our dedicated teams make us the best hospital in New York.

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital as ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* 2020–21

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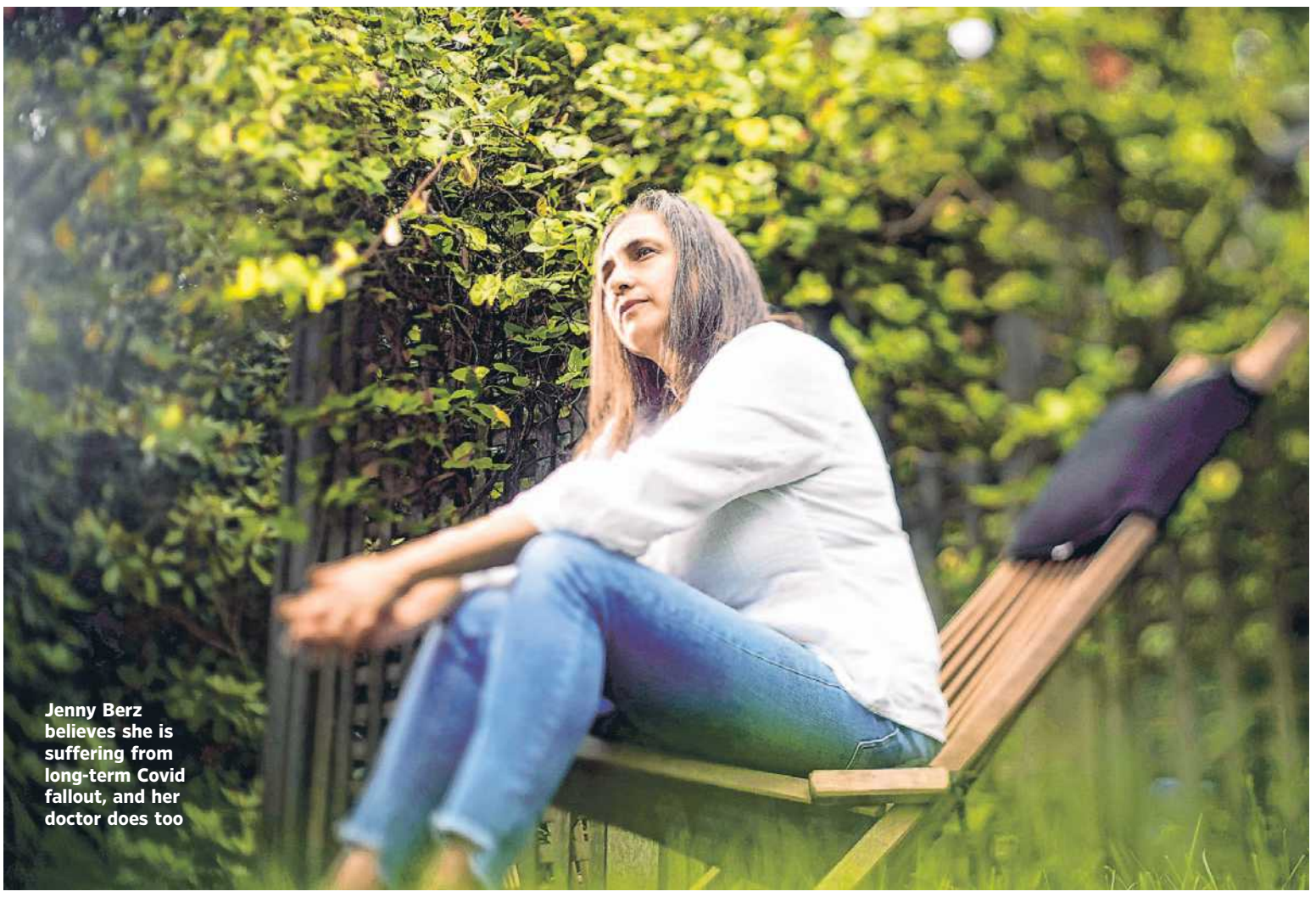


DAVID DEGNER FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Jenny Berz believes she is suffering from long-term Covid fallout, and her doctor does too

Months of Battling Covid—And Murky Test Results Too

Doctors believe many people are fighting Covid long-term, but testing inconsistencies complicate care; 'a struggle to get doctors to believe me'

YOUR HEALTH

Sumathi Reddy

Jenny Berz woke up on March 27 with a fever, headache and shortness of breath. Four months later she is still sick, struggling with fatigue, sinus pain, blurred vision, gastrointestinal issues, and numbness in her hands. She loses her sense of smell every few days.

Ms. Berz, a 50-year-old clinical psychologist in Brookline, Mass., believes she is suffering from long-term symptoms of Covid-19, and her primary care doctor does too. Her husband tested positive for Covid about a week after she fell ill. But the four antibody tests Ms. Berz has taken came back negative, as did a diagnostic test in March.

Ms. Berz and her doctor believe she is among thousands of "long-haul" Covid patients, who are still experiencing symptoms or aftereffects months after initial infection. Many have test results confirming they've been infected. But some doctors believe there is also a large number of long-term sufferers who lack test results to prove it.

It's unclear exactly how many people fall into that group. But doctors at the forefront of caring for long-haul Covid patients say it is substantial. "People are being refused care based on tests that are not necessarily telling you what you think they're telling you," David Putrino, director of rehabilitation innovation at Mount Sinai Health System in New York City, whose Center for Post-Covid Care opened in May. He estimates there are "tens of thousands" of long-haul Covid patients. "A lot of these patients' care is being gated based on a lack of a positive test and I'm very troubled by this."

Long-term Covid patients are gaining more attention. A JAMA study from Italy published earlier this month found that 87% of 143 Covid-19 patients reported the persistence of at least one symptom 60 days after onset. Britain's National Health Service announced plans for a Covid-19 recovery service for patients with long-term symptoms earlier this month.

About one-third of 270 non-hospitalized adults who tested positive for Covid said they hadn't returned to their normal health two to three weeks later, according to a survey published recently by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Among 18- to 34-year-olds with no chronic medical conditions, one in five hadn't returned to their normal health.

Inconsistencies around testing make tracking and treatment more complicated. Many long-haul patients are people who were younger and were previously healthy, whose Covid cases were initially mild or moderate. Many didn't get tested early on because they didn't qualify for the diagnostic PCR tests, which are designed to detect live virus at the time when you have an active infection. If you wait too long after infection, the test is unlikely to detect the virus: An Annals of Internal Medicine study found that diagnostic PCR tests have a 66% false negative rate 21 days past symptom onset.

Antibody tests, which detect whether you have previously been infected, also have challenges. Jon Deeks, a professor of biostatistics at the University of Birmingham in the United Kingdom, was lead author of a recent Cochrane review on Covid-19 antibody tests. Doctors believe it generally takes about one to three weeks to produce Covid antibodies, but the Cochrane review found that even 14 days after symptom onset, about 10% of antibody tests done in Covid patients were negative.

Few antibody studies looked at how accurate the tests were more than five weeks after onset. "So if you're being tested eight to 12 weeks later, it's possible that antibody levels will have started to reduce and tests more likely to give a false negative," says Dr. Deeks.

Dr. Putrino at Mount Sinai has surveyed 600 people who self-identified as long-haul Covid patients in social media groups. Sixteen percent had positive PCR tests, 51% had negative tests, and 33% had an unknown test result. For antibody tests, 11% reported positive tests, about one-third negative, and more than half unknown. He acknowledges some may have another virus or illness but says the majority of patients they've seen at the Post-Covid Care center have symptoms consistent with Covid-19.

Sinai's Center for Post-Covid Care has set up a way for people who test negative to still get referrals to doctors, so they can qualify for care and receive reimbursement.

Igor Koralnik, chief of neuro-infectious diseases and global neurology at Northwestern Medicine in Chicago, oversees the Neuro Covid-19 Clinic at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, which launched in May. The clinic has had many patients who didn't test positive for Covid but have lingering neurological symptoms that Dr. Koralnik believes were caused by Covid.

"The key is to take these patients seriously," he says. "They need to have a thorough investigation by neurologists to try to determine how best to manage them and how to treat them."

Alicia Gaffney says she was unable to get tested for Covid-19 until a month after she fell sick because she didn't qualify for a test. The 34-year-old San Francisco resident's first diagnostic test at the end of March was inconclusive.

'Tens of thousands' are battling long-term problems from Covid, estimates a top doctor.

At first, she had a postnasal drip, shortness of breath and diarrhea. Over time, her symptoms have multiplied, including continued shortness of breath, lung and back pain, cognitive issues, a racing heart beat, facial numbness, and a bout of pneumonia.

She got five more swabs over the course of a couple of months: all negative. Antibody tests in April and May were also negative. So when a third antibody test turned up positive at the end of June, she cried. Finally, she thought, she had the proof she needed. Still, she says her doctors aren't convinced. One questioned the company she got the test from, saying she could have had a false positive. Another says she might have multiple viral infections.

"It's been a struggle to get doctors to believe me," says Ms. Gaffney, a nurse at a Botox clinic who is on maternity leave and whose 8-month-old daughter was diagnosed with Covid-19 based on symptoms.

Before getting sick, Ms. Berz was an avid Peloton bike rider with mild asthma. Now she says she is unable to do any physical activity without feeling completely depleted. "Some of my doctors couldn't understand how I could have Covid and no antibodies. They started saying I must not have had Covid," she says.

Her primary care physician, Meredith Talbot, disagrees. "Her husband had it and her symptoms were all classic Covid," says Dr. Talbot. "I really think we can say with confidence that she had it."

"I'm sick," says Ms. Berz. "I've never been so sick."

Foods to Fight Your Pandemic Stress

BONDS: ON RELATIONSHIPS

Elizabeth Bernstein

Are you anxious? Angry? Feeling depressed?

Consider what you eat. For more than a decade, studies have shown that a healthy diet—high in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, fish and other lean protein—can help fight depression.

Now, emerging research in the nascent field of nutritional psychiatry suggests that certain foods can help manage a broader range of emotional challenges, such as anxiety, anger and insomnia. And while the most established treatments for mental-health conditions such as depression remain antidepressants and talk therapy, researchers say food can also be a very useful tool.

Uma Naidoo is a nutritional psychiatrist and author of the new book "This is Your Brain on Food: An Indispensable Guide to the Surprising Foods that Fight Depression, PTSD, ADHD, Anxiety, OCD and More." Dr. Naidoo, who is the founder and director of the Nutritional & Lifestyle Psychiatry clinic at Boston's Massachusetts General Hospital, specializes in helping people cope with mental illness through nutritional strategies.

I spoke with Dr. Naidoo about how our diet can help us handle the emotional challenges of the pandemic. Here are edited excerpts of that interview.

Researchers have been studying the connection between diet and mood for awhile. What's new?

Dr. Naidoo: We have come to understand more definitively in the past year that personalized treatment plans for nutrition are very important. This is because of the connection between the gut and brain. They connect via the vagus nerve, which allows for two-way communication. The balance of good and bad bacteria in the gut microbiome is so important because they communicate with the brain. But the composition of bacteria in each person's gut is unique. So one person with depression may respond very differently to certain foods than the next person with depression.

ILLUSTRATION BY GWENDA KACZOR

Is there an easy way to remember what to eat?

You want to eat whole foods in what I call a Mediterranean eating pattern. I don't like the word diet because it implies you need to restrict things. I want people to feel they have an abundance.

There is a mnemonic I use: BRAIN FOODS. B is for berries, which give you fiber and antioxidants. R is for the rainbow of colors of fruits and vegetables, which provide a diversity of fiber and nutrients. A is for antioxidants, which get rid of damaging compounds made in the body. I is for include—remember to include lean protein. N is for nuts, a good source of nutrients.

F is for fiber-rich and fermented foods, which feed the good gut bacteria. The first O is for healthy oil, such as olive oil, which has antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties. The second O is for omega-3 fatty acid rich foods, such as fatty fish, which also have an anti-inflammatory effect. D is for dairy, which adds good bacteria to your gut. S is for spices because certain spices have excellent brain benefits.

It is also very important that people understand there are foods to avoid. Processed foods. Sugar. Artificial sweeteners. Foods with the wrong type of fats, such as trans fats, and fried foods.

Can food replace medicine, such as antidepressants?

It cannot. I still prescribe medicine for people who are seriously ill.

How can food help with stress or anxiety?

When you are in a state of anxiety, your body is in a fight-or-flight mode. This impacts your hormones. Cortisol, the stress hormone, goes up.

Food can help you boost feel-good hormones and decrease cortisol. One of the foods I recommend is turmeric with a pinch of black pepper. The active ingredient in turmeric is curcumin, and it does a few things: It improves the gut microbial ecosystem. It may increase serotonin and dopamine and decrease cortisol. And it reduces inflammation by inhibiting inflammatory pathways. Meanwhile, the piperine in black pepper increases the absorption of curcumin.

What about depression?

When people feel depressed, they have a lower level of serotonin, the happiness hormone.

One type of food that helps is food rich in omega-3 fatty acids, such as fatty fish or seeds such as chia, flax or hemp. Omega-3 fatty acids help to build cell membranes in the brain. They're anti-inflammatory, which is important because depression includes elements of neuroinflammation.

Does food have a connection to anger?

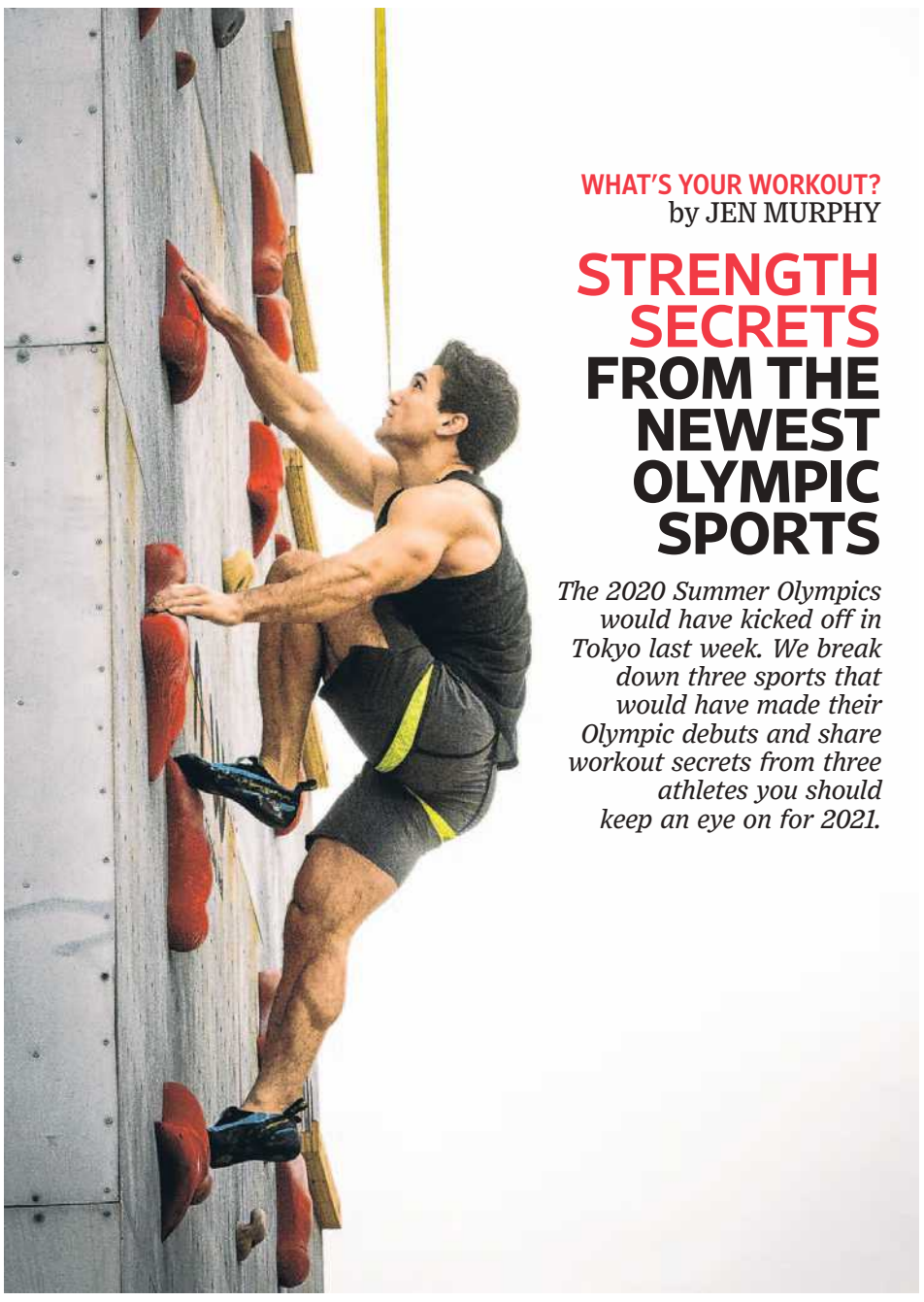
Research shows that diets high in trans fats are linked to anger and aggression. Trans fats interfere with how the brain produces and uses omega-3 fatty acids. So you'll want to cut back on trans fats and eat more omega-3-rich foods, such as fatty seafood.

Now take the term "hangry." Studies have shown that there is something to it—low glucose is related to aggressive and angry behaviors. So it's important to eat healthy, whole grains or complex carbohydrates to stabilize your blood sugar. Vegetables and almond butters are also nutritious and will break down slowly in your body and also help stabilize your glucose level.

How can food help with insomnia?

In insomnia, one of the problems is that certain chemicals in our brain that regulate circadian rhythms become unbalanced, such as melatonin and tryptophan. Food can help replenish them. In fact, food is our only source of tryptophan; the body doesn't produce it.

There are many foods rich in melatonin, including eggs, fatty fish, asparagus and broccoli. And chickpeas are a good source of tryptophan. I often recommend that people eat an omelet for dinner to boost their melatonin levels or have an evening snack of hummus and whole-grain crackers to get some tryptophan. The carbohydrates in the crackers help to transport the tryptophan to the brain.



WHAT'S YOUR WORKOUT?
by JEN MURPHY

STRENGTH SECRETS FROM THE NEWEST OLYMPIC SPORTS

The 2020 Summer Olympics would have kicked off in Tokyo last week. We break down three sports that would have made their Olympic debuts and share workout secrets from three athletes you should keep an eye on for 2021.

Sport Climbing

This Olympic competition requires athletes to compete in a format featuring all three sport-climbing disciplines.

In bouldering, athletes climb as many fixed routes as they can within four minutes on an approximately 15-foot-high wall that presents a range of challenges, like holds so small they can only be held by fingertips.

Lead climbing involves athletes attempting to climb as high as they can on a wall about 50 feet or higher within six minutes using safety ropes.

Speed climbing pits two climbers against each other as they attempt to scale a nearly 50-foot-high wall faster than their opponent while secured to safety ropes. Speed climbing is like watching Usain Bolt do the 100-meter-dash up a vertical wall.

"You can do as many one-arm pull-ups as you want, but 70% of the work is coming from your lower body," says former Ukrainian national champion speed climber Oleksii Shulha, head speed climbing coach of Stone Summit Climbing in Atlanta.

The Athlete

Reza Alipour
Age: 26
Home: Qazvin, Iran
Bragging Rights: Holder of current men's speed climbing world record of 5.48 seconds

The Workout

Mr. Alipour, nicknamed the Asiatic Cheetah, is the rare athlete without a coach. He claims to train up to 10 hours a day, squeezing in 16 to 18 workouts a week. He says 40% of the time is devoted to wall climbing, 30% to weight training and 30% to plyometrics.

He uses a campus board, a suspended wooden board with a variety of rungs that you climb without the aid of your feet, to work on his finger strength. Sometimes he'll climb the campus board with a weighted plate of nearly 300 pounds around his waist. He also adds weight when he does pull-ups.

To build explosive power, he does sprints on land, but also builds leg strength by performing Olympic lifts, like the power clean, and pushing weighted sleds. Mr. Shulha notes the triceps are a key player in climbing. Mr. Alipour works the muscle by performing the typical row on unstable gymnastics rings. He visualizes the climbing routes ahead of every competition. "My mind has to be stronger than my body at this level," he says.

Move to try

Sprint Work

"Your lower body is your driving force for developing strength and power, even in a sport like climbing," Mr. Shulha says. A lot of training, like sprinting while pushing a weighted sled or while strapped to a parachute for resistance, is borrowed from track and field.

"Unlike track sprinting, climbing requires you to move in different planes of motion," he says. "It's more similar to parkour."

If you don't have access to a weighted sled, he suggests having a resistance band around your waist and anchored to another point (door or friend) and sprinting or trying to sprint on an unpowered treadmill while holding the front handle.

To work agility, perform drills where you sprint across a ladder forward and laterally and hop over low hurdles or obstacles on two feet and one foot.

Skateboarding

Simply standing on a skateboard and pushing off with one leg takes coordination and balance. But skaters also need lower-body and core strength to pop their boards off the ground, clear 20 stairs and absorb the shock of landing a 10-foot drop, says Jessika Alexander, a Los Angeles-based trainer for USA Skateboarding.

The Olympics will feature two disciplines. The park competition takes place in a terrain course shaped like a concrete bowl that is 5 to 10 feet deep and outfitted with vertical ramps, stairs and other obstacles. Street skateboarding courses replicate urban terrain and consist of rails, benches and stairs of elevations up to 8 feet. For both disciplines, skaters have 45 seconds to complete a run. Judges give scores based on degree of difficulty, speed, height, style, originality and execution.

"Because of the nature of the sport, slamming repetitively on concrete, skating has one of the highest injury rates," Ms. Alexander says.

The Athlete

Leticia Bufoni
Age: 27
Home: São Paulo, Brazil and Los Angeles
Bragging Rights: Five-time X Games gold medalist

The Workout

When you're pushing the limit in your sport, injuries happen. Ms. Bufoni has face-planted off big jumps and broke her right ankle twice last year.

"The only way to get better skating is to skate," she says. "But the time I put in at the gym helps me not get hurt, and when I do, I can bounce back faster."

She trains in Los Angeles with Red Bull strength and performance coach Tyler Jewell for two to three hours, five days a week. "I do a lot of boring exercises for my ankles," she says. "The most annoying is where I have to move a piece of paper on the floor with my foot to work ankle mobility."

Mr. Jewell says adduction—strengthening of the groin—is important because if one foot comes off the board, she needs to be able to stay upright without pulling a muscle. To train adduction, she does oblique crunches on a stability ball, with her bottom foot pressing against a wall and the top foot hovering in the air. To work core stability, her trainer removes the handlebars and seat from a stationary bike so she has to balance while pedaling.

"The resistance is so low, she must have absolute control over her movements," Mr. Jewell says.

Move to try

One-leg stability balance

To work ankle stability and balance, Mr. Jewell has Ms. Bufoni balance on a slanted foam wedge. It forces the foot to twist and turn so it can adapt to those stresses and become stronger, he says. He switches the direction of the wedge so her foot has to work on an uphill and downhill slant. He throws weighted balls at her to catch to throw her off balance.

At home, he says, you can start by balancing on one foot and bouncing a ball off a wall. When you master that, stand on a slanted wedge or an unstable surface like a pillow.

Surfing

The interaction between mobility, stability, flexibility, explosiveness, balance, coordination, strength and proprioception changes based on the conditions and where you are surfing. At the Olympics, judges score athletes based on power, speed and the flow of their maneuvers on the waves.

To catch a wave you need the upper-body strength, lat muscle endurance and shoulder stability to paddle out to the line up and into a wave. Hip strength, ankle mobility and core stability come into play when riding a wave and performing tricks like aerial 360s.

"There are few sports where Mother Nature dictates the timing," says Kevyn Dean, the San Clemente, Calif.-based medical director of USA Surfing. "Every wave has its own timing and rhythm."

The Athlete

Carissa Moore
Age: 27
Home: Oahu, Hawaii
Bragging Rights: Four-time World Surf League Women's World Tour champion

The Workout

In addition to getting in the water to surf, Ms. Moore does an hour of cardio three days a week, switching up running, hiking, biking and her newest obsession, tennis. "I've seen a huge improvement in my lateral movement and reaction time since I started playing two months ago," she says.

Two to three days a week she works with trainer Erin Kamano. She holds tabletop pose, kneeling on all fours with her knees hovering off the ground to build core stability. To challenge her balance, she performs exercises like squats on a Bosu ball and does single-leg exercises, like lunge hops.

She does plyometrics—explosive exercises that increase speed, quickness and power—like box jacks, where she jumps her feet out and in with a resistance band around her ankles for an added challenge. A weekly Pilates session focuses on engaging her lats so she doesn't overuse her shoulders when paddling.

Like most athletes, Ms. Moore was disappointed that the Games were postponed, but she's valued having more time to work on performance-based goals. "Usually I'm on tour competing all year," she says. "There's not time to work on new maneuvers. Now I have time to break things down, fine-tune and really take it up a notch for next year."

Move to try

Side Skaters

This plyometric exercise (see above) trains single-leg power, balance, ankle, knee and hip stability. It also adds a dose of cardio, Ms. Kamano says. Start feet hips-width apart, knees slightly bent. As you jump sideways off your right leg, swing your right arm across your body. Land softly on your left foot. Your right foot should hover above the ground close to your left ankle. Reverse directions.

Beginners can simply step back and forth and work on balancing on one foot. As you improve, take bigger hops from side to side. Challenge your balance even more by jumping on and off an unstable surface like a Bosu ball or pillow.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: MARYAM RAHMANIAN FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL; GETTY IMAGES; MICHELLE MISHINA KUNZ FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL (3); DAVID WALTER BANKS FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

ARTS IN REVIEW

MUSIC REVIEW | MARK RICHARDSON

Serious Songs From A Pop Princess

Taylor Swift's impressive new album sounds like nothing else in her catalog

BETH GARRABRANT

The best moments on Taylor Swift's 2019 album, "Lover," were ballads that expanded the range of her songwriting. Ms. Swift long ago mastered clever stories of heartbreak, but "Soon You'll Better" and the title track found her slowing down and sinking deeper into more emotionally nuanced territory. Hearing these numbers alongside some goofy (if always catchy) radio-friendly pop threw the merits of their more emotionally resonant material into sharper relief. Ms. Swift's new record, "Folklore" (Republic), a surprise release announced only last week and out now, builds on these developments and, owing to Ms. Swift's new collaborator, sounds unlike any record in her catalog.

Taylor Swift's 'Folklore,' announced only last week, was recorded by multiple artists scattered around the world

"Folklore" owes its existence to the pandemic. Ms. Swift's tour behind "Lover" was set to kick off in April, and when it was canceled she suddenly found herself with time on her hands. She had already been working on a few new songs with her longtime collaborator Jack Antonoff and now sought inspiration from an unlikely source: Ms. Swift reached out to Aaron Dessner, producer and multi-instrumentalist from the indie rock band the National, about writing together. He had also been working on his own music while quarantined, and he shared some sketches with Ms. Swift. Soon they were writing and recording an album.

The credits for "Folklore" underscore that this was an album created in quarantine. Mr. Dessner's parts were recorded at his studio in New York's Hudson Valley; Ms. Swift's vocals were recorded in Los Angeles; string parts were recorded in Buffalo and a synthesizer was recorded in Paris; vocals from Justin Vernon of Bon Iver were cut at his studio in Wisconsin. That the album was stitched together from these disparate parts recorded in studios all over the world is especially striking considering how cohesive the end product sounds.

"Folklore" places Ms. Swift's lyrical obsessions and melodic acumen in productions that draw directly from the National's brooding, goth-inflected indie rock. Mr. Dessner's twin brother, Bryce, also a member of the National, is a well-regarded new-music composer, and he wrote orchestrations for a number of the tracks here, lending "Folklore" a neoclassical bearing. It feels formal and carefully composed, giving Ms. Swift a setting in which to experiment. In an interview with the online music magazine Pitchfork, Aaron explained that as they wrote, a concept took shape in her mind, and that characters from one song might show up in another.

Ms. Swift has long infused her music with references to her life, leaving clues for her most devoted fans to uncover, but this collection is unusually weighted toward intra-album narrative. "The Last Great American Dynasty," which unfolds over a skittering drum machine beat and spare piano chords from Mr. Dessner, is based on the romance between Rebekah Harkness and Standard Oil heir William Harkness, and scene-setting lines like "Her saltbox house on the coast took her mind off St. Louis" would have been hard to imagine on Ms. Swift's earlier records. Opening track "The 1," a strutting midtempo number that finds Ms. Swift thinking about an old flame and what might have been, mentions the Roaring '20s, and the first verse ends with "the greatest films of all time were never made," the first of many mentions of cinema.

It's an album, in part, about how stories are handed down from one generation to the next, with movies as one medium for that transfer. "Exile" was written by Mr. Vernon, Ms. Swift, and an otherwise unknown songwriter named William Bowery, whom fans speculate might be a pseudonym for Ms. Swift's current boyfriend or Ms. Swift herself. Mr. Vernon opens in his lowest register, singing in the second verse, "I think I've seen this film before / And I didn't like the ending" over Mr. Dessner's piano chords, and then Ms. Swift echoes the line shortly after. The song builds to a stirring chorus where their voices join, trading perspectives in alternating lines, Mr. Vernon's "You never gave a warning sign" followed by Ms. Swift's "I gave so many signs." The structure of the track, in its arrangement and its portrayal of two perspectives on the same event, is remarkable, but the formal virtuosity never obscures its easy musical pleasures.

Her new sound stems in part from a collaboration with the National's Aaron Dessner.

When Ms. Swift writes from a more personal place, she focuses mostly on the danger of defining yourself based on how others see you, a familiar theme for her that she explores here with new subtlety. On "Illicit Affairs," created with Mr. Antonoff, she sings of the self-loathing that comes from pursuing a relationship that can go only so far, while on "Mad Woman" she explores culture's unease with female anger, mixing historical fragments (witch trials, sanitariums) with present-day narratives.

The middle third of the record is dominated by Ms. Swift's work with Mr. Antonoff, and while this stretch is mostly very good, it also hints at another direction this record could have taken. Both "August" and "This Is Me Trying" emerge from a fog of reverb and are extensions of the dream-pop sound of the song "Lover." They recall atmospheric bands from the '80s and '90s like the Sundays and Cocteau Twins, and it's a style for which Ms. Swift has an instinctive feel. One can easily imagine the pair building on that sound for a full record.

But the bulk of "Folklore" is simpler and quieter, with arrangements that leave more space. The closing "Hoax" unfolds over Mr. Dessner's tinkling piano, calling to mind a cobwebbed parlor in a neglected summer house, and the chorus has flashes of Victorian melodrama ("Stood on the cliffside screaming, 'Give me a reason'"), bringing the album to an appropriately moody conclusion. Though Ms. Swift's mastery of pop mechanics means you can hum just about all these songs after a couple of listens, "Folklore" is a deliberately serious record, and it's not hard to imagine those drawn primarily to her more effervescent work finding it a bit chilly and dour. It's a record for those less invested in her celebrity past, and it's a major success on its own terms.

Mr. Richardson is the Journal's rock and pop music critic. Follow him on Twitter @MarkRichardson.

Weather

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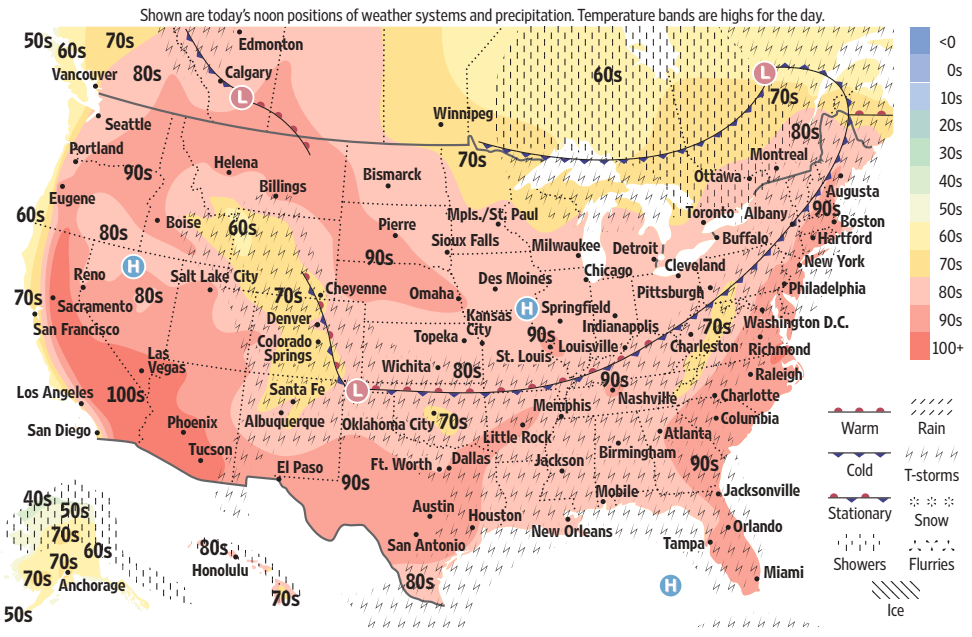
Shown are today's noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



U.S. Forecasts

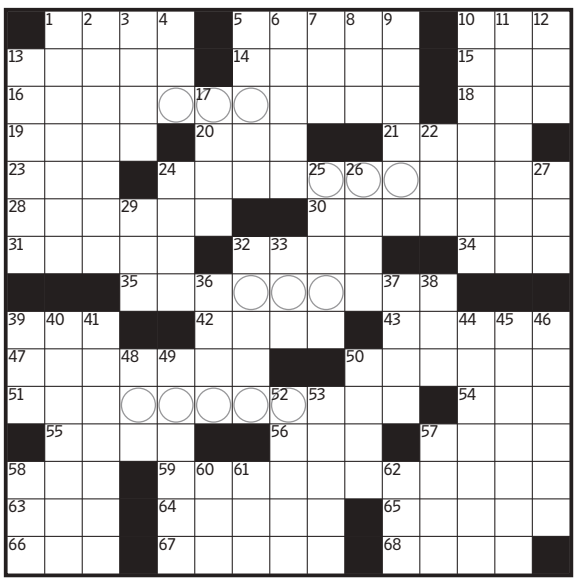
s...sunny; pc... partly cloudy; c...cloudy; sh...showers; t...t'storms; r...rain; sf...snow flurries; sn...snow; i...ice

	Today			Tomorrow		
City	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Anchorage	70	56	pc	73	58	pc
Atlanta	88	70	t	83	70	t
Austin	94	75	c	92	74	c
Baltimore	95	74	t	93	72	pc
Boise	96	66	pc	99	69	s
Boston	94	73	t	89	72	pc
Burlington	89	64	t	86	64	pc
Charlotte	94	70	t	91	72	t
Chicago	87	71	s	87	70	pc
Cleveland	85	67	pc	86	67	pc
Dallas	91	77	t	91	76	t
Denver	85	60	t	90	58	pc
Detroit	85	67	s	82	66	sh
Honolulu	86	74	pc	86	75	sh
Houston	91	77	t	90	77	t
Indianapolis	84	66	pc	87	70	pc
Kansas City	86	69	s	84	68	t
Las Vegas	108	82	s	110	86	s
Little Rock	90	74	t	87	74	t
Los Angeles	82	61	pc	85	60	pc
Miami	93	79	pc	91	79	pc
Milwaukee	86	68	pc	80	69	pc
Minneapolis	84	63	pc	83	61	s
Nashville	89	72	pc	86	73	t
New Orleans	84	75	t	90	77	t
New York City	93	76	t	90	75	pc
Oklahoma City	78	69	t	82	71	t
Omaha	90	69	s	88	69	t
Orlando	90	76	t	92	76	t
Philadelphia	94	75	t	92	74	pc
Phoenix	111	89	pc	113	90	s
Pittsburgh	85	64	t	85	66	pc
Portland, Maine	89	70	t	88	67	pc
Portland, Ore.	88	60	pc	91	63	s
Sacramento	99	59	s	95	58	s
St. Louis	90	73	s	91	72	t
Salt Lake City	92	69	s	95	71	s
San Francisco	72	55	pc	72	57	pc
Santa Fe	83	58	t	89	58	s
Seattle	82	59	s	84	59	s
Sioux Falls	88	66	s	85	67	pc
Wash., D.C.	94	77	t	93	75	pc

International

	Today			Tomorrow		
City	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Amsterdam	67	56	pc	66	53	pc
Athens	93	78	s	95	77	s
Baghdad	125	89	pc	124	92	pc
Bangkok	93	78	t	93	80	t
Beijing	85	71	t	87	73	c
Berlin	81	57	t	71	54	pc
Brussels	72	53	pc	73	53	pc
Buenos Aires	53	37	s	54	44	s
Dubai	105	93	pc	106	92	pc
Dublin	63	47	c	60	56	pc
Edinburgh	62	50	c	64	50	pc
Frankfurt	83	54	pc	79	55	pc
Geneva	87	65	t	84	63	s
Havana	90	72	pc	90	74	t
Hong Kong	93	81	sh	93	81	t
Istanbul	86	72	s	88	74	s
Jakarta	91	75	pc	91	74	pc
Jerusalem	90	69	s	90	69	s
Johannesburg	59	38	pc	63	40	s
London	69	51	pc	74	56	pc
Madrid	98	71	pc	101	72	pc
Manila	92	78	t	90	79	t
Melbourne	59	46	c	63	48	pc
Mexico City	74	57	t	74	58	t
Milan	92	72	pc	93	72	pc
Moscow	79	64	pc	81	66	sh
Mumbai	89	81	t	88	80	t
Paris	79	54	pc	80	58	pc
Rio de Janeiro	84	71	s	77	69	pc
Riyadh	115	89	pc	115	92	pc
Rome	87	67	s	87	68	s
San Juan	90	80	t	89	80	s
Seoul	82	73	c	82	73	r
Shanghai	91	81	c	91	80	pc
Singapore	87	79	sh	84	79	t
Sydney	64	50	r	65	49	pc
Taipei City	95	80	t	96	82	t
Tokyo	84	73	t	77	70	r
Toronto	84	66	s	81	63	sh
Vancouver	74	57	c	76	59	s
Warsaw	87	65	pc	78	54	pc
Zurich	83	61	t	82	56	pc

The WSJ Daily Crossword | Edited by Mike Shenk



REST AREAS | By Adam Vincent

Across

1 Kitten-adoption org.
5 Arrangement of notes
10 "Love ___ neighbor"
13 Explorer's reference
14 Drop by
15 Peace sign shape
16 Pelt by a fireplace
18 Butter bit
19 Email program button
20 60 minuti
21 Surrounded by
23 Black ___ (covert military missions)
24 Public projects of questionable merit
28 Tried to improve one's score on, as the SATs
30 Request for a drink for the road
31 Wide
32 Uncontrollable way to run
34 Org. with hands-on training?
35 Award show rollout
39 Neighbor of Wyo.
42 Bygone GM auto, for short
43 Apothecary's containers
47 Singer-songwriter Etheridge
50 Forgivable, as some sins
51 Bought some time, in a way
54 Hitter's stat
55 Money of Mexico
56 ___ Lingus
57 Victorious shout
58 Digits on IRS forms
59 Feature of Manhattan, and of this puzzle's answers that contain circles
63 Place for an orchestra
64 Middle Baudelaire in Lemony Snicket's books
65 Roof features
66 Termination, figuratively
67 Alternative to FaceTime
68 Picked out of a lineup

Down

1 Less gradual, as an incline
2 Anticipates that one will
3 Hand unit
4 Beast of burden
5 Veep between Hubert and Gerald
6 Barbarian of pulp novels
7 Spring mo.
8 Lucy of "Elementary"
9 Catch the interest of
10 Series premiere, often
11 They often follow corner kicks
12 So far
13 Soak up
17 Wacko
22 Studio with a lion mascot
24 Portend
25 Some slide and some revolve
26 Prepping for mess
27 Briny expanse
29 Blade in a boat
32 Happy as ___
33 Fuming
36 Rx amount
37 At any point
38 Bronze component
39 Org. promoting global financial cooperation
40 Permanently get rid of
41 Pasta-cooking specification
44 Radio carrier
45 Toiled
46 Moves like a cat
48 "___ been swell!"
49 Astounds
50 Designer Wang
52 "Bon appétit!"
53 Hardly loquacious
57 Surface competitor
58 Place to be pampered
60 Utah's state animal
61 Vote of dissent
62 Souvenir from Oahu

▶ Solve this puzzle online and discuss it at **WSJ.com/Puzzles.**

Previous Puzzle's Solution

H	E	N	N	A	■	■	S	T	A	R	■	E	R	S
A	R	E	A	S	■	G	I	M	M	E	■	N	A	P
S	O	U	T	H	A	F	R	I	C	A	■	F	Y	I
■	S	T	E	E	P	L	E	■	■	D	O	U	B	T
F	I	R	■	■	S	A	N	A	N	D	R	E	A	S
B	O	O	M	L	E	T	■	L	A	S	A	G	N	A
I	N	N	I	E	■	■	G	O	V	■	C	O	S	T
■	■	■	S	E	X	A	P	P	E	A	L	■	■	■
A	C	E	S	■	E	S	S	■	■	N	E	W	M	E
D	A	Y	T	O	N	A	■	T	E	A	S	H	O	P
S	L	E	E	P	A	P	N	E	A	■	■	A	M	I
A	D	E	P	T	■	■	U	P	S	C	A	L	E	■
L	E	X	■	S	E	C	R	E	T	A	G	E	N	T
E	R	A	■	I	L	O	S	E	■	P	E	R	T	H
S	A	M	■	N	I	N	E	■	■	E	S	S	A	Y

SPORTS

Marlins' Outbreak Throws MLB Season Into Turmoil

Two games were postponed as teams await further test results

By Jared Diamond And Louise Radnofsky

Five days after Major League Baseball began its attempt to stage a season amid the coronavirus pandemic, its plan was thrown into turmoil following an outbreak of positive tests on the Miami Marlins.

Tests showed that a dozen or more players and staff members from the team have contracted Covid-19, prompting MLB to postpone two games previously scheduled for Monday, several people familiar with the matter said.

The Marlins had proceeded with their game Sunday afternoon in Philadelphia against the Phillies after learning that several players had tested positive that morning. They stayed in Philadelphia overnight to await further test results instead of flying to Miami as they had intended.

The episode represents a worst-case scenario in the plan devised by MLB to begin play.

By Monday, it had become clear that the infection had spread, raising significant and unsettling questions about the viability of MLB's plan to play games in cities around the country as the virus continues to surge.

MLB postponed the Marlins' home opener against the Baltimore Orioles as well as the Phillies' contest against the Yankees at Citizens Bank Park, where the Marlins played Sunday. The Orioles were scheduled to fly back from Miami to Baltimore on Monday. In an interview with MLB Network, commissioner Rob Manfred said the Marlins and Orioles wouldn't play their game Tuesday but could meet for their scheduled matchup Wednesday at Camden Yards if coronavirus test results allow it.

Meanwhile, MLB was awaiting the results of a new round of Phillies tests administered Monday to ensure that the virus transmission was contained to the Marlins. Those samples were supposed to be processed at Rutgers University's RUCDR Infinite Biologics laboratory in New Jersey and returned as early as late Monday, one of the people familiar with the matter said.

Under an agreement with the players' union, Manfred has the right to suspend or cancel the season if enough players are sick that it undermines the sport's competitive integrity. The exact number for Manfred to trigger that clause isn't enumerated, though on MLB Network, he said one condition would be "a team losing a number of players that rendered it completely noncompetitive."

"After a successful Spring 2.0, we have now experienced challenges once we went on the road and left Miami," Marlins CEO Derek Jeter said. "Postponing tonight's home opener was the correct decision to ensure we take a collective pause to properly grasp the totality of this situation."

MLB officials spent Monday contact tracing in an effort to uncover the source of the Marlins' spike—a challenge given the team's travels over the past week. The Marlins held their training camp in Miami, one of the nation's biggest coronavirus hot spots.

Last Tuesday, they played the first of two exhibition games in Georgia against the Atlanta Braves. A day later, manager Don Mattingly described the Marlins' dugout as "a mess," with players unable to take cover from the steady rain that fell during the game without crowding together against MLB's protocols.

"We had all these guys and nowhere to go," Mattlingly said. "Then we've got a zillion guys in the dugout, so there's no way we're social distancing."

From there, the Marlins headed to Philadelphia for their opening series against the Phillies. Before the first game, they placed catcher Jorge Alfaro, one of their top hitters, on the injured list and didn't provide a reason. Two other Marlins players, outfielders Lewis Brinson and Matt Joyce, have been on the injured list since July 15 without explanation. Teams cannot confirm positive tests without receiving permission from the player.

Then came Sunday, when the Marlins—and MLB—faced a dilemma. Before their game against the Phillies, the Marlins scratched pitcher José Ureña. Two other regular players, Garrett Cooper and Harold Ramírez, were also held out of the lineup. The game went on anyway, with the Marlins winning, 11-6. Afterward, Mattingly said the Marlins "never really considered not playing" and that "we're taking risks every day."

Veteran infielder Miguel Rojas, one of the Marlins' clubhouse leaders, also said the players never considered not playing Sunday.

"That was never our mentality," Rojas said. "We knew this could happen at some point."

The episode represents a worst-case scenario in the plan devised by MLB to begin play. Baseball executives initially explored putting the entire league inside a sequestered "bubble," ensuring that players had no contact with the outside world. That is similar to the approach taken by the NBA, NHL, WNBA and several other professional leagues. The NHL on Monday said that it had conducted 4,256 tests from July 18-25 as it prepares to resume its suspended season. All of them came back negative.

MLB ditched the bubble idea, in part because of objections from players, over concerns that baseball's ranks were too large to fit inside a closed location for such a long period of time. The summertime weather in the proposed locations—Arizona and Florida—also presented a problem, and few other sites have enough quality baseball fields to play a full season.

Baseball then turned to a structure involved playing in home markets and having teams move from city to city. The plan rested heavily on frequent testing of players and trying to keep them relatively distanced from each other.

But those protocols had potential holes in them from the start, epidemiologists said, largely stemming from the league's difficulty in securing access to tests that could generate rapid results. Players are currently tested every other day, with results coming back within 48 hours from labs in Utah and New Jersey. Crucially, the players are not kept in isolation while waiting for test results to come through, meaning that players could play in a game in the period between taking a test and learning the results.

During the training camp period, baseball had only a handful of new positive cases, before teams started traveling. On Sunday, Mattingly said, "It's a lot scarier on the road."

Some public-health departments have also expressed wariness over baseball's protocols. The Canadian government refused to allow the Toronto Blue Jays to play in the country.

Pennsylvania health officials declined to allow the Blue Jays to set up in Pittsburgh sharing Pirates facilities saying that with the Pirates and Phillies in the state, adding a third team and the additional risks brought by the teams they would host was inappropriate. The Blue Jays ended up in Buffalo, N.Y.

Above, The Marlins dugout during a game on July 21. Right, Marlins manager Don Mattingly greets Phillies manager Joe Girardi.

FROM TOP: KEVIN C. COX/GETTY IMAGES; CHRIS SZAGOLA/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Saudi Power Broker Lifts Almeria to Brink Of La Liga Promotion

By Joshua Robinson

Almeria, Spain

PEOPLE COULDN'T STOP talking about the free cars. They were Almeria's shtick: Buy a season ticket to this obscure soccer club in Spain and the team's eccentric Saudi Arabian owner might just give you a brand new Audi A1.

It was the first thing most people heard about the club, or the man bankrolling it, a Saudi government minister named Turki al-Sheikh. The Spanish press wrote about it repeatedly. When Sheikh organized a high-profile exhibition game in Riyadh, even Lionel Messi wanted to know about the cars, too.

"If you calculate the value of that," said Mohammed El Assy, the Almeria chief executive who organized around a dozen giveaways, "it's much more than the cost of 12 A1 cars."

When it wasn't raffling off German hatchbacks, Almeria was climbing the standings of Spain's second division to the brink of moving up to La Liga. This month, it secured a place in Spanish soccer's promotion playoffs. But the real mystery isn't how it reached those heights. It's why a member of Saudi's royal court would take an interest in a small, underfunded club on the south coast of Spain in the first place.

"The Minister is a man of football," is El Assy's short answer. That much is clear from Sheikh's online presence, where his millions of followers are led to believe he's one of the best connected people in the sport.

Sheikh, 38, is also a man of Saudi's most powerful clique: Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's inner circle. Though he isn't a blood relative, Sheikh is one of the prince's oldest friends, trusted advisers, and chief political enforcers—a man who was present the night Prince Mohammed moved aside the previous crown prince by locking him in a room and convincing him to resign.

Sheikh's representatives did not make him available for comment.

As head of Saudi's General Entertainment Authority, Sheikh has been a driving force of Riyadh's bid to become a global tourist destination. Last winter, he brought A-list concerts, luxury cars shows, and a heavyweight prize fight to the middle of the desert. The popularity of those events has helped him gain standing inside the royal court, showing he could deliver on Prince Mohammed's promise to open up Saudi Arabia's restrictive society to the world.

Saudi's neighbors had already been using sports to burnish their image for a decade. Qatar's efforts include winning the right to host the 2022 World Cup—the first in the Arab world—and acquiring French powerhouse Paris Saint-Germain. Abu Dhabi's royal family, meanwhile, has revolutionized soccer ownership by building a multi-club empire around Manchester City since 2008.

It seemed only a matter of time before Saudi Arabia jumped in as well. Except that when Sheikh spent €20 million ($23 million) to buy Almeria in 2019, it wasn't a state operation, the club insisted.

"If this is backed by the Saudi government, why do I come to Almeria and negotiate to decrease [the price by] €2 million to buy the club?" El Assy said. "I'd go buy Tottenham or Man United. Why would I come here, my friend?"

"If Abu Dhabi has Man City and Qatar has Paris Saint-Germain, Saudi Arabia would not go buy Almeria in the second division in Spain," he added.

Saudi's state investment in soccer turned out to be Newcastle United. A consortium led by the Kingdom's Public Investment Fund is currently in the process of being vetted by the English Premier League.

In the meantime, Almeria remains Sheikh's personal hobby. After the initial €20 million, he injected another €30 million in capital, making it the richest project in the history of Spain's second division.

"I've done everything I could, and this was the offer I was waiting for," the club's previous president, Alfonso Garcia Gabarron, said at the time.

Almeria doesn't yet have visions of upsetting European soccer's hierarchy.

The club isn't in a position to spend a billion dollars on players and target the Champions League. The dream for now, El Assy said, is to become one of the game's top 20 or 30 clubs on the pitch.

His orders, unusually, are also to make Almeria a top club on social media.

"His Excellency insisted on this social media thing," said El Assy, who has seen Almeria's 200,000 Twitter followers turn into half a million.

The focus on growing the club's internet presence makes sense when you consider how much time Sheikh spends posting about his various celebrity friends from his own accounts—when he isn't dedicating paeans to Prince Mohammed.

Sheikh has flown in world-class soccer managers, including Barcelona's Quique Setien and Tottenham's Jose Mourinho, to give him private coaching seminars. He boasted to Messi that Argentina's 1978 World Cup winning manager, Cesar Luis Menotti, was among his teachers too.

This spring, he flexed his network again after challenging the president of Saudi club Al-Nasr to a PlayStation soccer match for charity. Personal shout-outs poured in from more than three dozen stars of international sports.

"Hey Turki, what's up baby?" the American heavyweight Deontay Wilder said in one clip. "I just want to wish you all the best of luck with your game tomorrow."

Variations on the same theme—"Hello Turki," rather than Your Excellency—also came from Messi, Mourinho, boxer Anthony Joshua, World Cup winner Cesc Fàbregas, five-time NBA champion Dennis Rodman, and Diego Maradona.

After the Almeria deal was done last August, El Assy brought in a new coaching staff. He kicked off plans for Almeria to move away from its rented practice fields and build its own permanent facility. He secured some Audis to give away.

The whole time, El Assy was reporting back to Riyadh. Sheikh rarely visits Spain, but nearly a year later, the insomniac still expects two updates a day.

"This is why I'm a smoker, and a lot of coffee every day," El Assy said. "I always say to the people working with us, that with the minister you choose: He's either the best man in the world, or the worst man in the world."

—Justin Scheck contributed to this article.

Turki al-Sheikh, a political enforcer of Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince, has turned Almeria into his personal hobby.

CARLOS BARBA/EPA/SHUTTERSTOCK

OPINION

Margaret Sanger Gets Canceled

MAIN STREET
By William McGurn

Margaret Sanger has been morally promoted to the rank of Confederate general. It comes courtesy of Planned Parenthood of Greater New York, which will remove Sanger's name from its Manhattan clinic because her "racist legacy" and "deep belief in eugenic ideology" can no longer be denied.

"The removal of Margaret Sanger's name from our building is both a necessary and overdue step to reckon with our legacy and acknowledge Planned Parenthood's contributions to historical reproductive harm within communities of color," wrote Karen Seltzer, the chapter's chairman.

What might that "reproductive harm" include? During a National Day of Mourning last summer, Catherine Davis of the Restoration Project, a black organization dedicated to promoting the sanctity of life and rebuilding families, offered some perspective. The estimated 20 million African-American abortions since *Roe v. Wade* in 1973, she noted, is more than America's entire black population in 1960.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that non-Hispanic black women account for the greatest share of all U.S. abortions, 38%, despite being only 13% of the population. New York City's Bureau of Vital Statistics reports that for 2017, the most recent year for which it has data, there were almost as many black abortions as live births. This disparity remains an issue polite society won't touch—so outside the pro-life community it breaks through only when someone like Kanye West brings it up.

In 2009 Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg kicked up a storm when she said that behind the *Roe* decision she thought "there was concern about population growth and particularly growth in populations that we don't want to have too many of." She later clarified, saying she wasn't endorsing the eugenic motivation she ascribed to *Roe*—just pointing to concerns about overpopulation at the time. Whatever the intentions, abortion's consequences have manifestly affected different populations differently.

"Planned Parenthood does a large percentage of its abortion business in minority neighborhoods," says Kay James, president of the Heritage Foundation and founder of Black Americans for Life. "Some employees may believe they are helping women, but whether they know it or not, they are doing the work of white supremacists, which is eliminating an alarming number of black people before they are born."

African-American women such as Mrs. James have featured prominently in the pro-life movement from the beginning. Mildred Jefferson, the first black woman to graduate from Harvard Medical School, was a founder of the National Right to Life Committee. Alveda King, founder of Civil Rights for the Unborn, is a niece of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Democrat Katrina Jackson is a pro-life leader in the Louisiana Senate. The same press that fawned over Faye Wattleton when she was heading Planned Parenthood (and famously refused to debate Mrs. James) ensures that women like these remain invisible.

Planned Parenthood disavows her 'racist legacy' but continues carrying it out.

And what about Clarence Thomas? The Supreme Court last year let stand a lower-court ruling that threw out an Indiana law prohibiting abortions done solely for reasons of race, sex or disability—in other words, for eugenic reasons. Justice Thomas was derided for an opinion pointing out that "Sanger's arguments about the eugenic value of birth control in securing 'the elimination of the unfit' apply with even greater force to abortion." He went on to say how abortion has proved a "disturbingly effective" eugenic tool: not only in the disproportionate number of black abortions in the U.S. but in the hundreds of thousands of pregnancies terminated in Asia because they were girls and the near elimination of Down syndrome births in Iceland. The court, he warned, can't dodge the issue forever.

As it turns out, neither can Planned Parenthood. Its removal of Sanger's name raises all sorts of awkward questions. Will Hillary Clinton and Nancy Pelosi return their Margaret Sanger Awards? Will Bill de Blasio insist on keeping a Manhattan square named for Sanger? What about the bust of Sanger in the National Portrait Gallery?

No one can expect Planned Parenthood to reconsider its support for abortion. But if it means what it says about holding "long overdue dialogues" with "communities of color," how about a public conversation with African-Americans who believe that black women struggling with unintended pregnancies ought to have more hopeful options than simply getting rid of their unborn children?

Plainly the cancel culture that has now taken down Margaret Sanger is not up to the job, because canceling is less about coming to terms with history than erasing it.

"I believe many African-American pro-lifers share my view that removing Sanger's name from buildings isn't the way for Planned Parenthood to reckon her legacy," says Mrs. James. "It should be about reckoning with the ongoing part of her work, in terms of the Planned Parenthood clinics in our neighborhoods. If we're being honest about legacies, isn't that the conversation we should be having?"

Write to mcgurn@wsj.com.

Snooze the Climate Alarms

GLOBAL VIEW
By Walter Russell Mead

You won't hear this from the professional climate alarmists, but an important study on global demographics has good news for the future of greenhouse emissions. For some time, demographers have been scaling back forecasts of future population growth, but they may not have gone far enough. A new University of Washington study published in the Lancet argues that conventional population statistics don't account for ongoing and projected future improvements in health care and education for women around the world. More literacy and better access to information about contraception are, along with urbanization, associated with declining fertility rates as women gain better control of their reproductive lives.

Looking at the impact of these forces, the study predicts some startling changes over the course of the century. Instead of the global population reaching between 9.4 billion and 12.7 billion by 2100 (as estimated in the 2019 United Nations World Population Prospects report), the new study suggests it will peak at 9.7 billion in 2064 and then decrease to about 8.8 billion by 2100. If the U.N.'s Sustainable Development Goals for education and contraceptive use are met in full, the researchers estimate that population could be as low as 6.29 billion in 2100. That would be 33% lower than the lowest current U.N. projection, and around 1.5 billion fewer than the Earth's population today.

Even under the less aggressive scenario, the consequences would be far-reaching. China, where the University of Washington study expects population to decline by 48% to 732 million, would fall to third place, behind India and Nigeria, in the world population ranking. Population in 23 countries and territories, including Japan, South Korea, Italy, Portugal and Spain, would fall by 50% or more from their peaks. America, where continuing immigration is expected to offset declining fertility, would slip from third to fourth place with 336 million, barely more than today.

These shifts would lead to wrenching change. Health-care and pension systems would come under great stress around the world as shrinking numbers of working people support large populations of older people. But the impact on greenhouse emissions would be much more benign.

These projections may not pan out; 80 years is a long time horizon and predicting the reproductive choices of people not yet born is less science than art. Nevertheless, the study points to a vital linkage between climate and progress that the green movement often overlooks. Growth can be good. Economic development brings better health care and more information to women around the world.

There are several lessons here for policy makers wrestling with the difficult issues surrounding climate change. The first is that conventional strategies for combating climate change are too narrowly conceived. A focused global effort to ensure that the education and contraceptive SDG targets are fully met could have a significantly greater long-term impact on emissions than more-expensive and unpopular policy choices like carbon taxes or the mandated use of expensive renewables.

A new study predicts population will drop sharply as developing economies grow.

Reproduction isn't the only human behavior that changes with greater wealth and more education. Societies that are wealthy enough to provide education and health care also act to preserve and restore their natural surroundings. Developing countries may hack down their forests, pollute their rivers, and foul their air, but when they become rich they invest in repairing the damage and reducing their footprint.

There are other ways that economic development supports the environment. The transition from traditional agriculture to more-intensive "factory farms" offends green sensibilities but can achieve green goals. Factory farms produce more food on less land and are often more carbon-efficient than the small-scale organic farms beloved by hipsters. The U.S. today produces far more food than in the 19th century, but as marginal land is taken out of production, the forests return. In America, forests have been expanding for more than 50 years, and even though population has more than tripled, there is more forested land in the country today than there was in 1910. In Europe, forested land expanded by an area the size of Portugal between 1990 and 2015.

If the SDG targets for education and contraceptive access are met, and efficient agriculture continues to spread across the world, the combination of a falling population and a smaller agricultural footprint would allow the "rewilding" of much of the Earth's surface. And if economic development spreads the blessings of greater freedom and greater education to more of the world, popular demands for cleaner air, cleaner water and the protection of nature will only grow.

For many greens that thought is heretical, but the University of Washington study is only the latest piece of evidence pointing to the most important truth in the climate debate. While there are serious problems that need to be addressed, the greenest thing an economy can do is to grow.

De Havilland Saved Hollywood From Stalin

By Ronald Radosh

Olivia de Havilland, who died Sunday at 104, is remembered mostly for her on-screen work, including her role as Melanie Hamilton in "Gone With the Wind." But we shouldn't forget her contribution to ending the Communist influence in Hollywood at a critical moment.

De Havilland was involved with the Hollywood Independent Citizens' Committee for the Arts, Sciences and Professions, which brought together liberals and Communists as World War II was ending. Its leader, Hannah Dorner, was a secret member of the Communist Party. As the early winds of the Cold War blew, Dorner began to shift the group toward a pro-Soviet position. By October 1945, she was leading the group in opposing "the incipient native fascism" she said was emanating from the Truman administration.

De Havilland, an anticommunist liberal, was shocked when she heard the Communist screenwriter John Howard Lawson tell the committee the U.S. was starting "to strangle democracy everywhere." In June 1946, she accepted an invitation to speak at a committee rally in Seattle. She received a draft, written by Hollywood's most gifted, prolific and highest-paid screenwriter, Dalton Trumbo. Trumbo wanted her to condemn "the drive of certain interests toward a war against the Soviet Union," and his text condemned Truman for union busting, anti-Semitism and racial bigotry.

A true liberal, the actress was steadfast against Communists.

What de Havilland did was unprecedented and gutsy. Without informing Trumbo or anyone else in the committee's leadership, she read to the rally not Trumbo's prepared words, but her own, written with the help of James Roosevelt, the late president's anticommunist son, who was one of the committee's leaders.

From 1932 to 1945, she told her captive audience, a "coalition of all liberal and progressive forces" supported the New Deal. But in this new era, "reactionary forces have driven a wedge in the liberal coalition" and were trying to make it appear "that the great liberal movement is controlled by those who are more interested in taking orders from Moscow and following the party line than they are in making democracy work." The only answer was for liberals to distance themselves from Stalin and his followers, the American Communists. "We believe in democracy," she told the crowd, "and not in Communism."

De Havilland's speech, Trumbo wrote her in an angry letter, was nothing "but a denunciation of Communism," an exercise in "Red-baiting." With the support of another actor who belonged to the group, Ronald Reagan, James Roosevelt and de Havilland proposed that members make a statement strongly opposed to communism. After a stormy meeting, Reagan, producer Dore Schary and others proceeded to de Havilland's apartment, where she told them she had decided to "smoke out" the Communists and openly oppose them. James Roosevelt publicly resigned in July 1946, and it was soon apparent that the committee's only remaining members were the Communists who had created it.

Mr. Radosh is co-author, with Allis Radosh, of "Red Star Over Hollywood: The Film Colony's Long Romance With the Left."

BOOKSHELF | By Roger Lowenstein

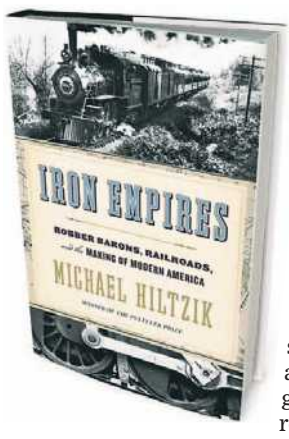
Keeping Profits On Track

Iron Empires

By Michael Hiltzik
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 424 pages, $30)

The public image of the robber barons has always been a barometer of how America thinks about wealth. Were they financiers or swindlers? Builders or monopolists? In the Progressive Era, the muckraker Ida Tarbell cast John D. Rockefeller as a ruthless monopolist, and Matthew Josephson's compelling but one-sided Depression-era tome, "The Robber Barons," scorched the lot of them. In recent decades serious biographers have reappraised the turn-of-the-century moguls and found more to like. Could the wheel be poised to turn again? With inequality considered a public enemy, a reappraisal might be ripe.

In "Iron Empires: Robber Barons, Railroads, and the Making of Modern America," Michael Hiltzik pokes among the ghostly bones of tycoons past but doesn't generally offer a new interpretation. Mr. Hiltzik, a journalist with the Los Angeles Times, presents a colorful cast in conventional terms. Once again we hear that the railroad barons made money by watering stock (meaning that they inflated it, as in watering cattle), swindling rivals, buying judges and milking decrepit properties.



Daniel Drew was vaunted for his ability to manipulate shares. He played with the float of the Erie Railroad "with the ease of a child inflating and deflating a toy balloon," as Mr. Hiltzik puts it. For unalloyed greed, it was hard to top George Pullman, the sleeping-car magnate, who set up a "beautiful" company town but gouged his underpaid workers on rent. When a depression set in, Pullman cut wages 30%; somehow the workers' rent was unaffected, while corporate dividends rose.

Labor unions objected, but they were weak. The most serious threat emanated from the barons themselves, who recklessly overbuilt. The finagling Jay Gould ruined the Union Pacific, the Civil War-era trunk line chartered and subsidized by Congress. Talk about a fiduciary! Gould thought nothing of (a) destroying the company with an expensive acquisition while (b) personally wheeling and dealing in the stock while also (c) serving on the board. The result was redundant tracks, ruinous rate-cutting and repeated waves of bankruptcy. Mr. Hiltzik likens the barons to rival duchies in Napoleonic Europe, jousting and plotting but incapable of asserting order.

Until, that is, the emergence of J.P. Morgan Sr. and his nearest rival, E.H. Harriman. Morgan tried to right the finances, and Harriman to upgrade the operations, of America's first major industry—which today carries no more passengers than in 1890 but far more freight using far less labor. The standard view, which Mr. Hiltzik reprises, is that Morgan and Harriman were more public-spirited than the likes of Gould, swearing off stock manipulations in order to put the roads on a sounder footing.

The rub is that they were also monopolists, and neither was shy about his collusive instincts. Morgan publicly chortled about having gathered the presidents of "all the competitive traffic of the roads west of Chicago and St. Louis." The purpose of his little tea party was to fix prices. Harriman chose the more direct route of acquiring Union Pacific, the road previously mismanaged by Gould. It had fallen into debt and disrepair, but Harriman committed millions to improving it; he then sought to acquire or eliminate any line that might impede his pursuit of an east-west monopoly.

Morgan and Harriman were more public-spirited than their robber-baron predecessors, but they were also monopolists, keen on collusion.

Harriman is the more interesting character of the two by virtue of his present obscurity, though not the more charming. "Not one man in a thousand found him genial," an acquaintance remarked. Morgan looked down on the runt-sized but iron-willed tycoon, who, unlike Morgan, had risen from genteel poverty. More than a financier, Harriman had an operator's eye; he saw every "blistered rail and loose bolt," as one railroad superintendent observed. While Morgan's idea of an adventure was taking the cure in Provence, Harriman rounded up the leading scientists of the era for an all-expenses expedition to remote Alaska.

"Whether Harriman and Morgan were motivated chiefly by public or personal interest can be endlessly debated," Mr. Hiltzik says after debating the question for more than 300 pages. The distinction would have puzzled Morgan, who fancied that his pursuit of consolidation was in the public interest. Rails were a natural monopoly. What they needed was rationalization and, to use a 20th-century term, regulation. Until the federal government volunteered for the job, Morgan and Harriman were the closest thing.

Mr. Hiltzik's narrative, unhappily, is overloaded with portentous framing. The trouble starts early, when he intones that each of his heroes "would play his hour upon the great stage." Such anticipatory drum beating punctures any sense of narrative tension. And to say, as he does, that Harriman was a "necessary" figure to the evolution of the railroad industry assumes a predestination available only in retrospect: What if Harriman had slipped on the tracks?

Elsewhere, Mr. Hiltzik revs up a railroad war by telling us that "fate intervened," as if events were adhering to a master script. Trying to confect a sense of inevitability, he asserts that "storm clouds were on the horizon" as the 19th century "drew to a close." But the clouds were visible only in retrospect. He spends a lot of time describing a ball at New York's Waldorf in 1897, replete with 60 cases of champagne, as a set-piece of speculative excess. But the market break, which is supposed to give the ball its symbolic power, didn't come until four years later.

Mr. Hiltzik often assumes a forward knowingness—cutthroat competition "would send more than half of America's railroads into bankruptcy"—but rarely seems to be fully in the present moment. He writes that the railroad baron James J. Hill and Harriman, who came to loggerheads over Northern Pacific, were "preordained" to clash and that Wall Street "steeled itself for a final paroxysm." This is history written in reverse. His characters are a rich, interesting lot. But his reflexive foreshadowing robs "Iron Empires" of the drama it might have had.

Mr. Lowenstein is the author of "America's Bank: The Epic Struggle to Create the Federal Reserve."

OPINION

REVIEW & OUTLOOK

Jerome Powell's Price-Fix Is In

Every dog of a bad policy idea has its day, but bad monetary-policy ideas seem to get more than one. The latest idea whose time has come and gone and come again is yield-curve control, which is shaping up to be one of the Federal Reserve's next party tricks.

The Fed flirts with controlling the Treasury debt yield curve.

This tool would involve the Fed setting interest rates by diktat for the first time in 70 years, and Governors are warming to the idea. The Open Market Committee may discuss the policy at its meeting Tuesday, and Chairman Jerome Powell said at his June press conference and before Congress that the Fed is studying such controls.

* * *

No one should underestimate the risks this poses for the global economy. For decades the Fed has "set" short-term interest rates by expanding or contracting the money supply to guide supply and demand toward the target—via open-market operations for very short-term credit in normal times. The Fed added quantitative easing (QE) to its monetary arsenal in 2008 to influence rates, including long bond rates, but this still leaves room for markets to send signals about expectations for inflation, economic growth and the like.

Yield-curve control muzzles investors. The Fed would state its desired interest rates for government bonds at one or more maturities along the yield curve, commit to buying or selling unlimited quantities of bonds to achieve the target, and then dare global markets to test its resolve. Rising or falling rates—let alone a yield-curve inversion—no longer would be a meaningful signal. Any deviation from the declared rate would arise from speculative betting against the Fed rather than market guesses about the economy.

Fed officials think this would be good. The Fed has fretted since the Ben Bernanke era that long-term rates often resist the central bank's control. Operation Twist was an attempt to drag down longer-term rates by buying longer-term assets under QE. Governor Lael Brainard argues that forcing medium-term rates downward would bolster the Fed's credibility.

Backers say the policy allows central banks to manipulate rates without expanding their balance sheets ad infinitum. This argument appealed in Japan, the Frankenstein's lab of monetary policy, where two decades of quantitative easing left the central bank with relatively few outstanding government bonds to buy.

The Bank of Japan's 2016 introduction of yield-curve control saw an initial flurry of central-bank asset purchases, but markets now do as they're told without intervention. Monthly bond purchases have slowed relative to the era of "pure" QE. Australia introduced yield-curve control in March in an experiment the Fed is watching, and its central bank also needs to trade relatively little to maintain the peg.

Yet this putative blessing could quickly become a curse. Should investors decide to challenge the central bank's interest-rate peg, authorities would be forced to expand or contract the balance sheet quickly at a time of markets' rather than officials' choosing. The Fed would probably win such a battle of wills, but at what cost?

The Fed last experimented with this policy in the 1940s as Washington struggled to finance World War II. Interest-rate price controls reduced the Treasury's borrowing costs. But they introduced financial and other distortions that became harder to manage the further out of sync the official rate and market sentiment drifted.

By explicitly politicizing interest rates, the Fed also opened itself to political pressure from Treasury to maintain the policy after the war despite rising inflation. This conflict was finally resolved in the 1951 Accord when the Fed wrested back its independence from Treasury, but Fed "even keel" operations to facilitate government borrowing lingered into the 1970s.

If Mr. Powell thinks President Trump's Twitter feed is bad for Fed independence, wait until the chairman starts manipulating rates outright. The danger will grow more acute the more indebted the federal government becomes from pandemic response and Baby Boomer entitlements.

* * *

These concerns pale against the greatest risk: The world needs a market price for the 10-year Treasury yield, and Mr. Powell is threatening to take that away.

The Fed is interested in the Japanese and Australian yield-control experiments, but there's an important difference between those countries and the United States. Without meaning to be rude, the world cares little about the yield on a 10-year Japanese or three-year Australian bond. Everyone *must* care about the interest rate on 10-year U.S. Treasury notes.

Mr. Powell and his colleagues propose to fix the price on the paramount safe-haven asset in the global economy. This is true even if the Fed follows Australia's lead and introduces price controls at maturities of only three or four years. A fixed price at one or two points on the yield curve inevitably will distort prices at every other point.

Note also that Australia's central bank targets the rate used as the risk-free benchmark for mortgages and other loans in that economy—which is why the central bank thinks the policy works. The same logic in the U.S. would require the Fed to price-fix the benchmark 10-year Treasury sooner or later.

We don't know what price the global economy would pay for such a policy in economic distortions or financial instability. The Fed doesn't know either. No one should be eager to find out.

A Weekend of Urban Anarchy

Riots broke out again this weekend from coast to coast, with violence and vandalism damaging more of urban America. Democrats and their media allies insist these are largely peaceful protests, so it's worth examining what really happened.

These were not peaceful protests, despite what many in the media claim.

On Saturday in Seattle, protesters gathered outside the juvenile court and detention facility, set fire to portable trailers, and smashed the windows of nearby cars and businesses. An explosive device gashed an eight-inch hole in the side of the Seattle Police Department's East Precinct, and rioters threw fireworks, stones and other projectiles at law enforcement.

"In all 59 officers were injured throughout the day with one of those being hospitalized," the police department reported, and "injuries ranged from abrasions and bruising to burns and a torn meniscus."

Similar scenes unfolded in Portland as rioters tried to tear down the fence surrounding the Hatfield Federal Courthouse. Demonstrators threw Molotov cocktails Friday night, and after midnight one federal officer took "a direct hit from a commercial grade firework," another "was hit with a mortar firework," and a third "was struck in the head with a mortar firework," the Department of Homeland Security says. Peaceful?

ASSOCIATED PRESS
Protesters in Portland, Ore., July 26.

DHS says some 5,000 or 6,000 returned to the scene on Sunday, threw smoke bombs and launched "a roughly 10-minute-long continuous firework attack against the courthouse." DHS says at least 20 federal officers sustained injuries in Portland.

In Louisville, Ky., a black militia that calls itself the "Not F— Around Coalition" lived up to its name Saturday when a member discharged a gun and accidentally struck three compatriots, causing non-life-threatening injuries. In Oakland, Calif., rioters set fires downtown Saturday night, including at the Alameda County Superior Courthouse. In New York City, demonstrators defaced police vans with spray paint and tried to smash their windows, while others lit trash cans on fire. Demonstrators carried out more vandalism at a federal building in Atlanta and a Fraternal Order of Police lodge in Baltimore.

This list isn't exhaustive, and it undermines the claim that the Trump Administration has deployed federal agents to suppress peaceful dissent. Federal officers protecting federal property are now the targets of demonstrators, not the instigators of violence. The real blame lies with progressive city leaders, who have all but promised violent protesters that they can act with impunity.

Portland recently imposed sweeping restrictions on when police can use tear gas to disperse protesters. Seattle passed a similar ordinance banning tear gas, blast balls and other less-than-lethal weapons—even after Police Chief Carmen Best warned that such restrictions leave officers with "no ability to safely intercede to preserve property in the midst of a large, violent crowd" and may "create even more dangerous circumstances for our officers to intervene using what they have left—riot shields and riot batons."

Federal Judge James Robart issued an injunction against the Seattle ordinance last week after the federal government expressed similar concerns, but it's only temporary. Other Democratic-run cities have passed or are pursuing similar bans.

The weekend's events were a deliberate assault on public and private property, law enforcement, and public order. Lawlessness begets lawlessness, and in recent weeks we've seen reports of vigilantes and far-right activists joining the melee from Richmond to Philadelphia. Local officials are allowing this disorder to occur, and the more it is indulged the worse it is likely to get.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We Must Change to Bring Back the Factories

Regarding Arthur Herman's "Bringing the Factories Home" (op-ed, July 20): I was an owner of an aluminum foundry near Boston in the early 2000s. We supplied a major semiconductor test-machine manufacturer with considerable business in China. I remember one very complex 300-lb. casting our customer was forced by the Chinese government to source in China to be allowed to sell machines there. Although it took them three years to find a Chinese foundry capable of making it, they finally did, and we lost over $1 million in revenue. Further, the machining source in New Hampshire where we shipped the casting lost the machining work. Like so many foundries, we closed in 2009.

We must emulate the Chinese by requiring American companies to source parts in the U.S. Forget tariffs, require a specific amount of work be brought back to the U.S. over a period of years. It won't correct our problem overnight, but by bringing back an increasing amount of product and components each year we will achieve the desired result.

BILL SCHAFFER
Aspen, Colo.

Mr. Herman correctly cites the national-security necessity of moving U.S. supply lines out of China, but the suggestion that these manufacturing jobs can be brought back to U.S. soil ignores economics. Various sources report U.S. manufacturing labor costs at multiples of those in China. Unless we suspend trade, those jobs cannot be brought back at such cost differences. Instead, American firms should focus on high-skill jobs in the U.S. and on close allies like Japan and South Korea, while low- and mid-skill jobs are moved to factories in more friendly low-cost countries like India, Indonesia, Taiwan and, especially, Mexico.

GEORGE HAMILTON
St. Michaels, Md.

I was hired as technical director for the International Society of Optical Engineering. Bottom line, 10 years after retiring in 2001, 85% of the papers in SPIE's refereed journal were Asian. Now 10 years later, Mr. Herman reveals the consequences of 70% Chinese enrollment in STEM courses at U.S. universities. For any real change we need to offer many more quality technical courses and have American kids take them.

TERRY MONTONYE
Bellingham, Wash.

The most significant thing we can do to boost manufacturing is to automate. If the trade war is fought over who has the cheapest labor, then China wins. If the trade war is fought over who makes the best use of robotics and automation, then we have a chance. Germany keeps up with China because it has four times as many robots per worker as the U.S. does, and does it without reducing manufacturing jobs. American political, labor and business culture needs to accept the fact that in the 21st century you cannot compete without robotics.

DAVID PETERSON
Orlando, Fla.

Cancer Is the Big Risk, Sunscreen Is an Asset

On behalf of the 20,000 members of the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD), I'd like to emphasize that sunscreens are a vital tool in the fight against skin cancer, and their formulations and use are in line with current Food and Drug Administration regulations ("The Numbers: Shining a Light on Sunscreen Chemicals," U.S. News, July 18).

The science is clear that unprotected exposure to the sun's dangerous ultraviolet rays is the most preventable risk factor for skin cancer, including melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer. Sunscreen can help protect the public from harmful ultraviolet rays. While the FDA is seeking more safety data on certain sunscreen ingredients, it has been clear that more research is needed to determine whether the absorption has any effects on a person's health. Just because an ingredient is absorbed into the bloodstream doesn't mean that it is harmful or unsafe. Most important, the study's authors and the FDA conclude that consumers should continue to use sunscreen as part of a comprehensive sun-protection plan.

Because dermatologists see firsthand the impact that skin cancer has on patients and their families, the AAD recommends that when outdoors, everyone seek shade, wear protective clothing—including a lightweight and long-sleeved shirt, pants, a wide-brimmed hat and sunglasses—and apply a broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher to all skin not covered by clothing.

BRUCE H. THIERS M.D., FAAD
President
American Academy of Dermatology
Charleston, S.C.

A Career Coach Who Knows You Best—Mom

"Meet Your Career Coach—You May Know Her as Mom" (Page One, July 20) illustrates that higher-education institutions don't adequately prepare undergraduates to enter the real world. Also, social capital can be just as important, if not more, than earning a degree. Although the students referenced in the article seemed bright, they needed the guidance of concerned and connected loved ones to turn academic success into something professionally valuable. This reveals a profound failure that is common throughout higher education. Even during boom times, recent grads enter the job market with insufficient institutional instruction as to how to actually land a job.

For students with families that have high stocks of social capital, the collective failure to tailor undergraduate experiences to real-world realities is less costly. Count me among those fortunate enough to have had to "put up with" an involved parent who willingly helped identify job opportunities. I hope that others with these sorts of parents recognize that such parental guidance, though occasionally frustrating, is a huge advantage over others looking for work.

Students without such connections face much stiffer odds of overcoming their shortage of labor-market instruction. Schools must step up their career-guidance programs, and community groups must do more to locate students in need of mentorship and the access to social capital that comes from having a connected, older loved one in your life.

KEVIN FRAZIER
San Francisco

Cleveland's Ballpark, Social Distancing and Patriotism

I, too, had the (mis)fortune of spending many days and nights, along with 70,000 empty seats, watching the Indians of the 1960s, '70s and '80s as described by Roger Cohen in "Cleveland Has Seen Empty Ballparks Before"(op-ed, July 23). The team has now become perennially competitive under its present leadership and Dolan family ownership. The team made me a proud fan the other night when the players stood for the national anthem with one hand on their heart and the other on their teammate's shoulder. The players got it right by demonstrating respect for the flag while incorporating togetherness—two things we need right now to move forward as a country. The Tribe deserves a hand for being the first team to hit a home run before the season starts.

EDWARD AUBE
Broadview Heights, Ohio

The Perfect Solution for the Portland-Federal Standoff

In his otherwise excellent analysis of Portland's riots, William McGurn overlooks one thing ("Portland's Pottery Barn Rule," Main Street, July 21). The federal government should immediately deed all its property to the city. It should then relocate to Bend, Ore. The residents will be much more polite—and less violent—than the Portlandese. An added bonus: Portland lawyers wanting to file suit in federal court will face a nice, three-hour commute each way, but they will experience the wonderful scenery en route. In time, they may even begin to love the benefits of civilized behavior.

TONY LIMA
Hayward, Calif.

Letters intended for publication should be emailed to wsj.ltrs@wsj.com. Please include your city, state and telephone number. All letters are subject to editing, and unpublished letters cannot be acknowledged.

Pepper ... And Salt

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

"Good news, Connors. I'm elevating you to crony."

Higher Ed and the Fragmentation of America

By Orrin Hatch

Some physicists believe the cosmos is home to an infinite number of bubble-shaped, parallel universes. The same theory could describe today's American politics.

Somewhere between the rise of cable news and social media, our shared sense of reality splintered. We live in an era of endless political narratives, in which the phrase "my truth" is supposed to be taken seriously. Algorithms built to confirm pre-existing biases shape our social media feeds and opinions. Living in our own bespoke information bubbles, Americans today cannot agree on the existence of facts, let alone what the facts are. All this has serious implications for public discourse on the most difficult issues facing society—from racial injustice to Covid-19.

With everyone's liberty threatened by cancel culture, it's time to restore freedom to academia.

We are living through an information revolution arguably more disruptive than Johannes Gutenberg's printing press. Before Gutenberg, one narrative of reality predominated Western society. By democratizing access to the written word, the press overthrew Rome's monopoly on ideas and allowed competing interpretations to proliferate. That took Europe from the Middle Ages to the modern era. It precipitated the Reformation, the Renaissance and the American Founding.

The internet gives nearly everyone his own virtual printing press. A single social-media post can reach millions in seconds. With so many competing sources of information, it's no wonder a shared reality has fractured.

Just as Gutenberg's invention threatened to undermine the religious authority of the time, the internet threatens to undermine our secular clerisy—the journalists, academics and policy makers who make up the expert class in America and elsewhere in the West. For decades, they have served an important gate-keeping role, wielding tremendous power over public opinion. But the internet makes it possible to circumvent the gate keepers. The gate keepers' desperate attempts to slow the unfolding revolution and keep control are proving downright draconian.

PHIL FOSTER

The spirit of the Inquisition is alive and well in today's cancel culture. The objective is not to root out nonbelievers in the church but ideological heretics in newsrooms and universities. These institutions are supposed to be bastions of free speech. But in 2020 any journalist or scholar who strays from progressive orthodoxy is ripe for cancellation.

Unlike Tyndale, no one is being burned at the stake, but plenty are being fired from their jobs. Take the forced resignation of New York Times editorial page editor James Bennet. Mr. Bennet's crime was not having the "wrong" opinion but allowing someone else to express his—a U.S. senator who, in suggesting the use of federal troops to prevent violence amid protests, articulated a position with which the majority of Americans agreed, according to polls at the time.

The situation is even direr in academia. Consider the case of Nathaniel Hiers, a math professor at the University of North Texas who ran afoul of the powers that be when he criticized the concept of "microagressions," a core tenet of the woke gospel. Mr. Hiers argued that the concept inevitably "hurts diversity and tolerance" by encouraging people to see the worst in others. For this blasphemy, he was fired.

Through such strong-arm tactics, newsrooms and universities silence opposition within their own ranks—and in the process expose their own ideological corruption. Americans are waking up to the realization that most media organizations are more interested in advancing their own agenda than reporting the facts. According to a recent Gallup poll, only 41% of adults trust the media to report the news "fully, accurately, and fairly," and only 48% have confidence in higher education.

The press and the university are the institutions that are supposed to keep us tethered to an objective reality—to help identify truth and differentiate fact from fiction. By embracing political activism, many of these institutions have abandoned their teleological mission. Growing blurrier by the day is the line between news and propaganda, education and indoctrination. No longer trusting traditional information sources—with good reason—an alarming number of Americans turn to fake news and conspiracy theories, accelerating the breakdown of shared reality.

Is there any going back? Most likely not. The secular clerisy can no more turn back the wheels of innovation than Rome could more than five centuries ago. The answer today, as it was then, is reformation.

To address the politicization of our expert class, we need a complete reformation of the system that feeds it—the universities. That entails a radical overhaul of campus culture, including the elimination of safe spaces, trigger warnings, speaker boycotts and other practices meant to stifle debate and honest inquiry. It entails fostering a philosophical counterbalance to the postmodern ethic that has unseated truth as the academy's ultimate aim. And it entails a renewed commitment to intellectual diversity, which is critical to creating an environment where free speech and heterodox ideas can flourish.

We shouldn't be afraid to pull the levers of federal and state power to bring about these reforms. For decades, American taxpayers have subsidized public universities, including some whose humanities and social-sciences departments look like political re-education camps. No more.

Legislators control the purse strings, and they can fight back by withholding funds from schools that enforce unconstitutional speech codes. They can go a step further in strengthening academic freedom by tying federal financial support to a university's willingness to adopt some version of the Chicago Principles, which protect students and professors with divergent views.

Alumni and donors also play a role. They can push for change by targeting certain programs with their gifts and by using contractual requirements to demand a detailed accounting of how their money is being used. They can also make their contributions contingent on a university's commitment to cultivating viewpoint diversity and upholding First Amendment freedoms.

Restoring intellectual honesty to our universities is key to rebuilding the credibility of the expert class and a semblance of a shared reality. We can debate the facts only when we can trust the institutions tasked to explain them. Until then, the political multiverse is here to stay.

Mr. Hatch is chairman emeritus of the Orrin G. Hatch Foundation. A Utah Republican, he served in the U.S. Senate, 1977-2019.

Biden May Want to Forget About the Russia Investigation

FREE EXPRESSION
By Gerard Baker

As was perhaps predictable in a presidential contest between two men on the ripe side of 70, we're into the "my memory is better than yours" phase of the election campaign.

Neurologists are divided on the real value of cognitive testing, but in any case we should be less interested in whether someone can recite with precision a string of random words than in whether he can demonstrate practical recall of recent important events in his life.

A better test for Joe Biden right now than "Person. Woman. Man. Camera. TV" might be "Obama. Vice president. Russia. Trump. Investigation."

It's well past time Mr. Biden was asked some hard questions about what he knew about the campaign by the administration he worked in to paint Mr. Trump as an asset of Russian intelligence.

When he digitally tiptoes out from his Delaware fastness, the former vice president is typically tossed some gentle softballs from friends at MSNBC, CNN or some other group of Democratic Party activists.

Even these can take a curious course. Last week, in a free-associative online session with representatives of the Service Employees International Union, Mr. Biden warned that the president was inciting hatred of Koreans by attacking China for covering up Covid-19. "People don't make a distinction—as you well know—from a South Korean and someone from Beijing," he told a panel that included a couple of puzzled Asian-Americans. They nodded sympathetically, like concerned relatives at the bedside of an elderly family member ranting about the nurse who has taken away his record player.

Mr. Biden can speak knowledgeably on the topic of Asian stereotypes. In 2006, when he was cognitively sharper, he offered this socioeconomic gem: "You cannot go to a 7-Eleven or a Dunkin' Donuts unless you have a slight Indian accent. I'm not joking."

Mr. Biden is lucky he doesn't receive tough questions—about the Russia-collusion story, for instance. Having spent three years talking about little else, the media has now pushed the story down the memory hole, since it was widely discredited and failed to generate its intended outcome, the removal of the president.

Inconveniently for the former vice president, awkward reminders keep popping back up unexpectedly, like the verbal eructations that punctuate Mr. Biden's remarks.

The candidate struggles to field softballs from friendly media. What if he were asked real questions?

The latest information adds to the mound of evidence that there was serious malfeasance by officials inside the Obama administration. Here's what we've learned in the past couple of weeks alone:

• At an August 2016 intelligence briefing, given for the ostensible purpose of informing candidate Trump about Russian interference in the election, an FBI official was present to gather intelligence on the Trump campaign.

• In February 2017, even as it continued to pursue investigations of Trump officials on multiple levels, the FBI had acknowledged it had no evidence to support the central claim of its inquiry: that Trump team members had worked with the Kremlin. Newly released documents from the Senate Judiciary Committee show that after publication of a New York Times report headlined "Trump Campaign Aides Had Repeated Contacts With Russian Intelligence," Peter Strzok, the FBI official who discussed the need for an "insurance policy" in case Mr. Trump got elected, wrote that the agency was unaware of any such contacts.

• The primary source for the infamous Steele dossier on Mr. Trump was a Washington-based Ukrainian émigré and think-tank scholar, not some high-level Russian informant. U.S. intelligence agencies warned law enforcement that much of the supposed intelligence was at best bunkum, at worst disinformation supplied by the Kremlin.

All this comes on top of what Michael Horowitz, the Justice Department inspector general, discovered late last year: FBI officials doctored information to get judges to approve Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act warrants and ignored or played down evidence that undermined their investigation. All the while, officials leaked damaging and selective information to friendly media to convince the country they were on to something.

We know Mr. Biden was kept abreast of aspects of the investigation. He took part in a January 2017 Oval Office meeting that discussed a taped phone call between Michael Flynn and the Russian ambassador a week earlier. We know that his boss wanted to be told everything the FBI investigators were doing. We know that Susan Rice, Mr. Obama's national security adviser and a leading contender for Mr. Biden's vice presidential pick, was also closely involved in reviewing aspects of the FBI's activities.

What else did Mr. Biden know? When did he first learn about the investigation? Did he receive information from that August 2016 briefing-cum-eavesdropping operation the FBI conducted with the Trump campaign? Did he press for the prosecution of Mr. Flynn? There are many more questions to be asked of a presidential candidate about what he can recall of such a critical period in recent history.

Mr. Biden's widening memory lapses were once thought by advisers to be a critical electoral liability. But if he can get from here to Nov. 3 assisted by a complaisant press corps disinclined to help him recall those last months of the Obama administration, the failing memory may turn out to be his greatest asset.

Down Under Doubles Down on Checking China

By John Lee

Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payne and Defense Minister Linda Reynolds will meet their American counterparts Tuesday in Washington for annual meetings known as Ausmin. Then they will fly home to Australia and quarantine for two weeks to minimize the spread of Covid-19—a requirement for those arriving from abroad.

It is extraordinary that the Australians are willing to tolerate two weeks of inconvenience to meet with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Defense Secretary Mark Esper. Virtual meetings are the norm. The decision to travel to the U.S. says something about how important America is to Australian security and prosperity—and about the threat China poses to both countries.

It is also evidence that the Trump administration's managing of allies, at least in Asia and the Pacific, has more to commend it than critics concede. It is true that staunch allies such as Japan and Australia find the president's unpredictable style deeply unsettling. But if the objective is to persuade allies to step up and carry their weight, then that is exactly what Australia is doing.

Like many countries in the Indo-Pacific mugged by reality, Australia has been on a journey with China. The pandemic has focused minds on what must be done. The Communist Party under Xi Jinping is nothing if not a devotee of the Leninist precept: Probe with bayonets and if you encounter mush, proceed; if you encounter steel, withdraw. Good will has little currency. Timidity will only invite Beijing to demand greater subservience.

It is in this spirit that Australia released its 2020 Strategic Defense Update earlier this month. The commitment to spend roughly $400 billion (in U.S. dollars) on national defense over the next decade, including almost $190 billion earmarked for capability enhancements, is eye-catching. But as important is what Australia plans to spend the money on: long-range and hypersonic missiles, unmanned combat vehicles and cyber capabilities. This can be explained only by a desire to counter the People's Liberation Army. The goal is to make China think twice about expanding its martial reach and presence in the Indo-Pacific.

Far from retreating into isolationism, Australia is reaching out of its comfort zone—defending the continent—and looking to help alter the balance of power in the Indo-Pacific. But this is possible only if America takes the lead, from strategic posture to developing offensive capabilities and operating the military assets jointly. Australia can't push back against China alone. In other words, Australia has doubled down on the alliance as its best option.

Trump challenges allies to pull their weight, and Australia steps up with courage and resolve.

Moreover, it is significant that Canberra is choosing to do this when relations between Washington and Beijing are more hostile than at any point since before Richard Nixon went to China in 1972. China has also turned up the pressure by imposing trade sanctions on products such as Australian barley. Regardless, Australia and Japan under Prime Minister Shinzo Abe have emerged as the southern and northern anchors of the American regional alliance system.

As someone who served in the Australian government during the last year of President Obama's administration and the first year of the current one, I can attest that the obstacle to greater Australian courage wasn't a lack of faith in U.S. power but doubts about American resolve. Canberra wouldn't contemplate such bold moves and risk punishment from China if America were likely to leave Australia fluttering in the breeze.

Mr. Trump might lead an unpredictable administration, but his determination in this fight is not in question. There's also a growing consensus among allies that the pandemic has changed the relationship between Washington and Beijing in ways that will last longer than any one administration.

All of this suggests that this week's meetings will be one of the most important in many years. There will be differences between the two countries, as is expected between a superpower and a smaller one. For example, Australians lament diminished American influence in regional institutions such as the East Asian Summit, which Mr. Trump didn't attend in 2019. That provided a pulpit for Beijing to bully its neighbors and extend its narrative of American absence.

Chinese diplomats frequently mock and dismiss the 1951 security treaty Anzus as a relic of the Cold War. But provocations by the Communist Party in China have given the alliance renewed purpose. Messrs. Pompeo and Esper and Ms. Payne and Ms. Reynolds will discuss a common objective: ensuring that the Communist Party meets collective steel whenever it probes and pushes.

Mr. Lee is a senior fellow at the Hudson Institute and the U.S. Studies Centre in Sydney. He was senior national security adviser to the Australian foreign minister, 2016-18.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.
PUBLISHED SINCE 1889 BY DOW JONES & COMPANY

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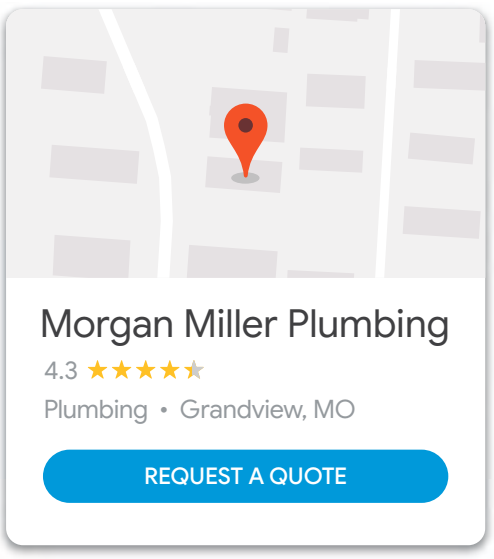

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The employees of Morgan Miller Plumbing pride themselves on being a small, tight-knit family, and they treat their customers the same way.

With a free Business Profile on Google, Morgan Miller Plumbing has been able to reach more customers. And while COVID-19 has presented new challenges, they've been able to adapt. More people are contacting them every week, and they're actively looking to hire additional technicians to help meet demand.

TECHNOLOGY: HUAWEI'S WOES GIVE SAMSUNG AN OPENING ON 5G B4

BUSINESS & FINANCE

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Nike Names New Diversity Chief

Facing complaints about culture, firm adds ex-Tesla officer to leadership team

By Khadeeja Safdar

Nike Inc. named a new chief diversity officer, adding a Black woman to its leadership team at a time the sneaker giant and other brands are promising to improve diversity and speaking out on social issues.

Kellie Leonard, the company's chief diversity and inclusion officer, is leaving to pursue other interests, according to a Nike spokesman.

Nike said Felicia Mayo, a former diversity chief at Tesla Inc. who joined Nike last year, will lead a newly formed team as chief talent, diversity and culture officer.

Under pressure to address racial divisions and inequities within their organizations, U.S. companies are rushing to hire chief diversity officers or elevate existing leaders to the position.

The role has long been marked by high turnover, according to current and former diversity chiefs. Ms. Leonard's exit was earlier reported by the Financial Times.

Ms. Leonard, an 18-year Nike veteran, was appointed to the diversity and inclusion job in April 2018 after a series of executive exits in the wake of complaints about the company's workplace culture.

She reported to Nike's human-resources chief, who at the time said Nike had failed to promote enough women and minorities.

Ms. Mayo was an HR executive in Silicon Valley for 16 years before spending two years at Tesla, according to her LinkedIn profile.

Other people of color on Nike's leadership team are its strategy chief and the heads of the Jordan and Converse brands.

Nike has said that Black vice presidents represented 9.9% of its U.S. total in 2019, and 21% of vice presidents are from underrepresented groups.

Nike has been restructuring its leadership team since John Donahoe took over as chief executive this year.

In February, Mr. Donahoe said the company's consumer president and its chief operating officer were leaving, and last week he named three Nike veterans to run consumer segments as part of a reorganization that will eliminate an unspecified number of jobs.

The company said it expected to book termination costs of $200 million to $250

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SEC Warns Of a Case Vs. Under Armour

By Khadeeja Safdar

Securities regulators have warned **Under Armour** Inc., founder Kevin Plank and its chief financial officer that they could face civil-enforcement action related to the sportswear maker's past accounting practices.

Under Armour said the Securities and Exchange Commission last Wednesday sent Wells notices to the company, Mr. Plank and finance chief David Bergman. The notices relate to the company's disclosures around its accounting in 2015 and 2016 and "pull forward" sales during those periods.

A Wells notice is a letter saying the SEC plans to bring an enforcement action against a company or individual and gives the recipients a chance to argue why the action shouldn't be taken.

The Wall Street Journal reported in November that the SEC and Justice Department were investigating Under Armour's accounting practices to determine whether the company shifted sales from quarter to quarter to appear healthier, according to people familiar with the matter.

In response to the Journal article, Under Armour disclosed the probe and said it had been cooperating with the Justice Department and SEC since July 2017. "The company firmly believes that its accounting practices and disclosures were appropriate," Under Armour said in November.

Shares of Under Armour finished the session up 2.7% at $11.20.

Former Under Armour executives told the Journal in November that they scrambled to meet aggressive sales targets, borrowing business from future quarters to mask slowing demand for the company's athletic apparel in 2016.

The Baltimore-based company frequently leaned on retailers to take products early and redirected goods intended for its factory stores to off-price chains to book sales in the final days of a quarter, according to former executives in sales, logistics, merchandising and finance.

The executives said Under Armour repeatedly used these and other moves to help extend a 26-quarter streak of 20% sales growth, a feat that came to an end in late 2016.

Wirecard Was Fined By Visa, Mastercard

Collapsed payments processor **Wirecard** AG miscoded gambling transactions and had high levels of stolen-card purchases and reversed transactions, leading to hefty fines from card networks **Visa** Inc. and **Mastercard** Inc., according to people familiar with the matter.

By AnnaMaria Andriotis, Paul J. Davies and Juliet Chung

Visa and Mastercard each imposed fines exceeding $10 million more than a decade ago, and the networks remained wary of Wirecard's business. Since at least 2015, Visa executives were concerned that Wirecard was a problem, according to some of the people familiar with the matter.

Visa asked Wirecard to cut off certain merchants and said too much of its business originated from risky areas such as gambling, pornography and unregulated health-care products known as nutraceuticals, those people said. Some of Wirecard's clients changed names to avoid being identified as problem merchants.

Such high-risk clients were highly lucrative to Wirecard. Pornjapan, a pornography purveyor, paid 10% fees for transactions handled by Wirecard in 2017, according to internal Wirecard documents viewed by The Wall Street Journal. Mainstream merchants tend to pay 2% to 3% for U.S. credit-card purchases.

A Visa spokesperson declined to comment. A Wirecard spokesman declined to comment.

A Mastercard spokesman said it actively monitors its network for violations of law and noncompliance with its rules. "Where we see areas of potential concern, we thoroughly investigate and work with our customers to remediate any issues we identify. This may include corrective action, fines or the suspension or termination of a license under certain circumstances."

Wirecard, which crumbled into bankruptcy last month when it admitted a $2 billion hole in its accounts, processed payments on behalf of shops and online merchants. Like other processors, it acted as a feeder of card transaction data into Visa's and Mastercard's vast networks, which connect to banks and handle hundreds of millions of transactions a day.

German prosecutors are investigating whether Wirecard executives used access to the financial system to launder money dating back as far as 2010. It has also charged executives with taking part in a multiyear fraud going back to at least 2015. Wirecard is also under scrutiny in the U.S. by federal prosecutors in connection with an alleged bank-fraud conspiracy that might have relied in part on Wirecard as a transaction processor and offshore merchant bank.

Visa and Mastercard watch

Please turn to page B10

Amazon, which accounts for more than a third of U.S. online retail sales, has seen its market value soar above $1.5 trillion this year.

Market share of U.S. online retail sales*

Amazon market value year-to-date

Global market share for renting out cloud infrastructure, 2018

*2020 estimate

Sources: eMarketer (retail market share); FactSet (market value); Gartner (cloud infrastructure)

Amazon CEO Faces Rare Test in First Testimony Before Congress

By Sebastian Herrera

At **Amazon.com** Inc.'s annual shareholder meeting in May, Chief Executive Jeff Bezos offered a familiar response when asked about scrutiny surrounding the company.

"We want people to know the truth about Amazon and how we use our scale for good," he said before outlining company initiatives on climate, job creation and small business.

That often-repeated message, and Mr. Bezos' tendency in public appearances and interviews to stick to folksy talking points about Amazon's rise, are set to be tested as never before when he makes his first-ever appearance before Congress on Wednesday.

In recent years, the world's richest man has granted few extended interviews to journalists and has seldom faced the kind of adversarial questions he is likely to get from lawmakers on the House Antitrust Subcommittee. He is set to testify via videoconference alongside CEOs from Apple Inc., Google parent Alphabet Inc. and Facebook Inc.

Mr. Bezos, whose net worth has soared to almost $180 billion, has ruled Amazon unchallenged since founding the company more than a quarter-century ago. He has a reputation for being unyielding when holding a strong belief or challenging what he considers to be poorly considered ideas. But he is also known for staying on message. Former Amazon executives say they expect Mr. Bezos to prepare carefully and to maintain discipline in sharing several messages that have come up frequently in the company's responses to scrutiny and criticism.

One is that while Amazon accounts for a large volume of e-commerce sales, its overall size in U.S. retail is much smaller. Another is its "customer obsession," one of 14 principles long touted by Mr. Bezos and his team as an explanation for the company's competitive behavior.

The crown jewel of his testimony "is very likely to be the consumer," said Guru Hariharan, who years ago helped build some of Amazon's seller services and now runs CommerceIQ, which works with brands selling on Amazon. "He can argue that you don't want to enforce too many rules on an open market because you will end up hurting the consumer."

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AstraZeneca Strikes Cancer-Drug Deal

By Peter Stiff

LONDON—**AstraZeneca** PLC has agreed to pay Japan's **Daiichi Sankyo** Co. up to $6 billion to jointly develop and commercialize a cancer drug it says could help redefine the way the disease is treated, in the British company's latest push into oncology.

The therapy, an antibody drug conjugate named DS-1062, targets a range of cancers—including lung and breast—that produce a protein known as TROP2. It is designed to deliver chemotherapy just to those cells, leaving healthy ones alone, potentially limiting side effects.

Under the deal announced Monday, AstraZeneca will pay Daiichi Sankyo $1 billion up front, an additional $1 billion dependent on regulatory approvals and up to a further $4 billion for sales-related milestones.

The companies will equally share costs and profits from the drug, except in Japan, where Daiichi Sankyo retains exclusive rights and will be responsible for costs and pay AstraZeneca royalties.

AstraZeneca cautioned that while it sees significant potential in DS-1062, the drug has yet to be approved anywhere, and its safety and efficacy are yet to be established.

RAPHAEL LAFARGUE/ABACA/ZUMA PRESS

AstraZeneca needs to refill its drug pipeline following patent expirations. Its factory in Dunkirk, France.

While AstraZeneca's profile has been raised this year because of its work developing a coronavirus vaccine with the University of Oxford, one of its key focuses in recent years has been pushing further into cancer treatments.

The company is betting that a sharper focus on oncology can revive its fortunes after a series of patent expirations on bestselling drugs like cholesterol pill Crestor knocked billions of dollars off its revenue.

AstraZeneca has launched six new cancer medicines since 2014 and last year hired a prominent cancer doctor, José Baselga, to lead oncology research and development. It signed a deal valued at as much as $6.9 billion last year for shared rights to another cancer drug with Daiichi Sankyo.

AstraZeneca Chief Executive Pascal Soriot said Monday the company now had six potential blockbuster treatments in oncology and that more could come from its early and late-stage pipeline.

Developing cancer drugs is an increasingly competitive area as the world's biggest pharmaceutical companies seek to commercialize scientific advances. Rivals including **Pfizer** Inc. and **GlaxoSmithKline** PLC are also focusing more on oncology.

—Adria Calatayud contributed to this article.

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BRYAN SMITH/ZUMA PRESS

The firm's practice of manufacturing in-house means it can't cut costs by canceling outsourced orders. A Louis Vuitton store in New York.

LVMH Profit Slides as Closing Luxury Stores Drives Up Costs

Fashion and spirits brands largely hold up, but pandemic still takes toll on earnings

By Matthew Dalton

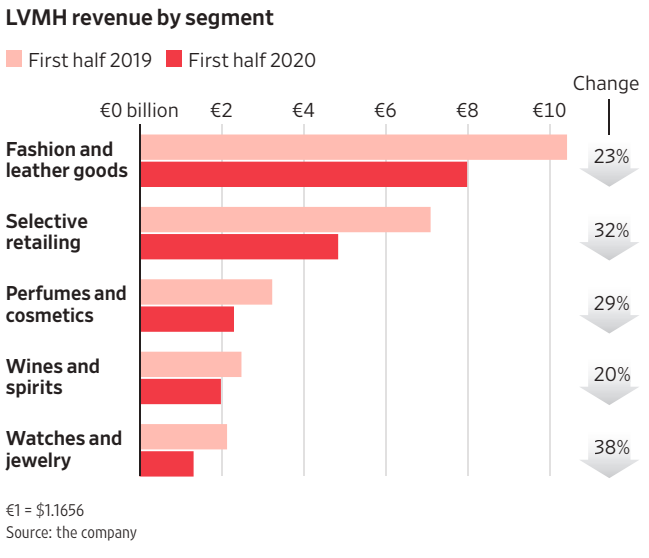
PARIS—French luxury conglomerate **LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton** SE said net profit plunged in the first half, as the company struggled to cut costs in the face of sweeping boutique closures during the coronavirus pandemic.

Revenue was relatively resilient, falling 27% in the half ended June 30 to €18.4 billion ($21.6 billion), LVMH said Monday.

The results were buoyed by Louis Vuitton and Dior—LVMH's biggest fashion brands—and its wines and spirits division, which includes Hennessy cognac and Moët & Chandon champagne.

But profit fell 84% to €522 million, as the company couldn't cut costs quickly enough to avoid a sharp decline in profit margins. That was well below analysts' expectations.

The results show some of the challenges facing the luxury industry as it struggles through lockdowns imposed by governments around the world to combat the pandemic.



€1 = $1.1656
Source: the company

Boutiques were closed first in China, then in the West. While they have mostly reopened in China and Europe, some in the U.S. are still shut as the country faces surging coronavirus cases.

Tourists are stuck at home, depriving boutiques in luxury shopping destinations of their top-spending customers.

LVMH is the world's biggest luxury company, and it normally outperforms the broader industry.

The conglomerate, however, has a harder time cutting costs than its competitors. LVMH brands produce most of their products in-house and often directly operate the boutiques where their handbags, high-fashion lines, perfumes, watches and jewelry are sold.

It is a strategy favored by French billionaire Bernard Arnault, LVMH's chief executive and controlling shareholder, to maintain meticulous control over the image of LVMH's brands.

But it also means LVMH can't cut costs by canceling orders to third-party manufacturers, and it bears much of the cost of shutting boutiques.

"We do manufacture inside, and so we suffered some lack of absorption of fixed costs," said Jean-Jacques Guiony, LVMH's chief financial officer. "It's particularly true at Vuitton, wines and spirits and some other businesses."

"Doing the right thing sometimes costs in the short term, but pays in the long term," said Bernstein analyst Luca Solca.

The company also had to write down products that it determined wouldn't last beyond the current fashion season, hitting profits.

Complicating matters for LVMH is the $16 billion deal it struck late last year to buy U.S. jeweler **Tiffany** & Co.

Mr. Arnault has since questioned the deal, given the huge blow dealt by the pandemic to the global luxury business.

LVMH executives on Monday gave no sign they were backing away from the deal and said they were still waiting for antitrust authorities to approve it.

Mr. Guiony said that business improved in June as more boutiques around the world reopened.

In the U.S. and Japan, two of LVMH's hardest-hit markets in the second quarter, sales in June were flat at Louis Vuitton and up slightly at Dior.

"And July will certainly see some improvement compared to June," Mr. Guiony said.

Nike Shifts Diversity Chiefs

Continued from page B1

million.

In 2018, Nike launched an ad campaign that featured NFL quarterback turned activist Colin Kaepernick, whose "take a knee" protest against police brutality and inequality ignited a nationwide debate.

In response to the killing of George Floyd, Nike pledged to invest $40 million over four years to support organizations focused on social justice, education and racial inequality in the U.S.

In addition, Michael Jordan and Nike subsidiary Jordan Brand said they would donate $100 million over the next 10 years to those causes.

MIKE SEGAR/REUTERS

Nike has been restructuring its leadership team.

Former CBS Interactive CEO Hired to Oversee Tinder App

By Georgia Wells

Match Group Inc. is naming a new chief executive for the company's flagship dating app Tinder at a time when the coronavirus pandemic is redefining the online dating industry.

The new CEO, Jim Lanzone, previously served as president and chief executive of CBS Interactive, as well as executive in residence at venture-capital firm **Benchmark Capital**. Mr. Lanzone, who will join the company Aug. 3, is succeeding current Tinder CEO Elie Seidman and will report to Match Group CEO Shar Dubey.

Mr. Seidman is stepping down and returning to work with early-stage, venture-backed companies, according to a person familiar with the matter. He joined Tinder as CEO in late 2017, and led the company as it focused on expanding into new countries.

Guiding Tinder through the pandemic is crucial for Match Group, which operates several dating apps including Match, Plenty of Fish and Hinge. Tinder is Match Group's most prominent brand and has tens of millions of users.

"We have an enormous opportunity to deliver on our mission, bring more people to the product and reimagine the user experience across different markets," Mr. Lanzone said.

When Match Group issued its first-quarter financial report in May, the company said that fewer subscribers signed up for Tinder after coronavirus case counts started to rise earlier this year.

But it appears that when people realized the pandemic was going to last for several months, they started trying to find new ways to use dating apps. A spokeswoman for Match Group said engagement on Tinder has increased, and that women under the age of 30 are now signing up for Tinder more frequently. (On heterosexual dating apps, men tend to outnumber women.)

Jim Lanzone will join the dating app Aug. 3, succeeding Elie Seidman.

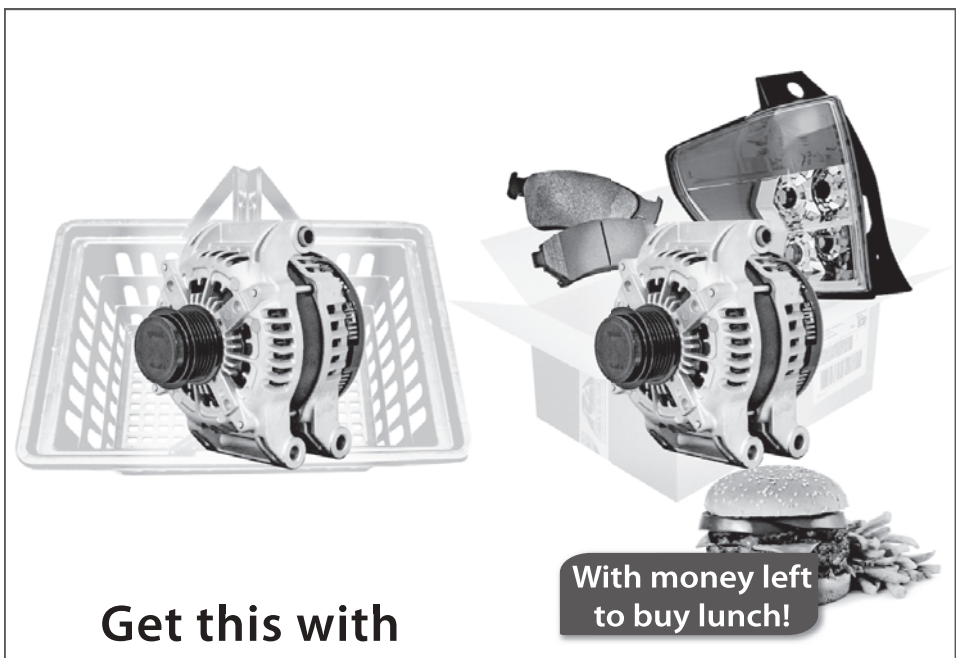
Match Group said Tinder experienced double-digit revenue growth in the second quarter from a year ago, and is expected to provide a fuller picture of how the pandemic has affected usage of its dating apps when the company reports its second-quarter earnings Aug. 4.

Many people who are concerned about health risks and the virus' spread are reluctant to meet up with strangers in person, even as shelter-in-place and social-distancing orders contribute to loneliness. This puts a greater emphasis in online interactions.

Tinder is increasing its investment in tools that allow people to socialize more online. In the past few weeks, Tinder rolled out the first version of the company's new video-chat feature.

Ms. Dubey said Mr. Lanzone has experience running complex tech organizations and integrating emerging media into bellwether brands, along with a record of building subscription offerings. At CBS Corp.'s Interactive unit, Mr. Lanzone helped develop the broadcaster's video-streaming strategy, and left last year as the company prepared to merge with **Viacom** Inc.

Tinder also is naming gaming executive Joshua Sell as product chief. Mr. Sell worked on and launched franchises at King, **Glu Mobile** Inc. and Korean gaming company NCSoft. Mr. Sell will report to Mr. Lanzone.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Walgreens CEO To Step Down, Become Chairman

By Sharon Terlep And Dave Sebastian

Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc. said Stefano Pessina will step down as chief executive, kicking off a search for a new leader at the company as the coronavirus pandemic has dented profit and complicated a turnaround.

Mr. Pessina, a 79-year-old Italian billionaire and one of the drugstore chain's largest single shareholders, took over five years ago following the merger of Walgreens and European pharmacy chain Alliance Boots.

Walgreens, the largest U.S. drugstore chain by stores, said Monday that Mr. Pessina will remain CEO during the search for his replacement. He will become executive chairman upon stepping down, succeeding James Skinner, who will remain on the board.

Even before the coronavirus outbreak, Walgreens and rival **CVS Health** Corp. were dealing with smaller profits from prescription drugs and competition from online rivals that have hurt retail sales. Illinois-based Walgreens responded by cutting costs in its home market and last year said it was closing 200 stores.

The pandemic has put further pressure on drugstores, as patients put off visiting doctors and other health providers, which has cut into prescription sales. Lockdowns have also reduced stores visits and retail sales.

Walgreens this month said it was cutting about 4,000 jobs in the U.K. and suspending stock buybacks as demand fell off in its international business. For its quarter ended May 31, the company said the Covid-19 pandemic sliced off $700 million to $750 million in sales, with most of the effects tied to its global retail-pharmacy business.

Where CVS has built itself into a health-care behemoth through acquisitions of pharmacy benefit manager Caremark in 2006 and insurer Aetna Inc. in 2018, Walgreens shifted away from all-out acquisitions came after unsuccessful attempts to buy **Humana** Inc. and rival **Rite Aid** Corp.

Mr. Pessina in recent years has championed a strategy of partnerships, with Walgreens joining with companies ranging from insurer Humana to grocer **Kroger** Co. In June, the company announced a deal with primary-care provider VillageMD to attach physician offices to hundreds of U.S. drugstores.

Walgreens's efforts have yet to deliver higher revenue and profit, but Mr. Pessina has urged Wall Street to be patient. Walgreens shares are down nearly 30% in the past year while CVS shares rose 13% in the same period.

Mr. Pessina, who has a degree in nuclear engineering, worked for several years in academia before taking over his family drug-distribution business. He has claimed to have completed more than 150 acquisitions as he consolidated the business around Europe.

One of those acquisitions was a company headed by Ornella Barra, who has been Mr. Pessina's life partner for three decades. Today she is Walgreens's co-chief operating officer.

In 2006, he merged his business, then known as Alliance UniChem, with the U.K.-based Boots drugstore chain. A year later, he joined with KKR & Co. to buy out the company and take it private for $18.5 billion. The deal making continued, and in 2012 Alliance Boots agreed to sell a 45% stake to Walgreens for $6.7 billion. In 2014, Walgreens bought the rest of Alliance Boots for around $14.7 billion.

The company's shares fell 1.7% in Nasdaq trading on Monday.

DIANE BONDAREFF/AP IMAGES FOR MATTEL

Mattel said Barbie sales rose 35% at the retail level, but gained 7% on a wholesale basis in the quarter with stores hobbled by the pandemic.

Toys Are Selling, but Mattel And Hasbro Aren't Cashing In

By Paul Ziobro

Toys from Barbie dolls to board games are flying off the shelves, literally and virtually, as parents look for ways to entertain their children during the coronavirus pandemic. But retailers haven't rushed to restock their inventory, causing financial pain at toy makers.

The discrepancy caused sharp revenue declines at **Hasbro** Inc. and **Mattel** Inc. in the second quarter compared with a year earlier, even as the companies say global retail toy sales rose in the period.

Mattel said Barbie's sales rose 35% at the retail level, but only increased 7% on a wholesale basis.

Hasbro said its games business, which includes Monopoly and Nerf, posted a 50% increase in retail sales, five times higher than revenue growth for the company.

The wide split between point-of-sale trends, which toy makers say reflects underlying demand, and financial performance reflects the extreme retailing conditions during the global pandemic.

About 30% of stores were closed globally at the start of the quarter, the companies said, halting sales and any follow-on orders to replenish inventory.

As stores have opened, retailers have been cautious to stock up, amid uncertainty from the virus and precarious financial situations at some chains.

"They are managing their inventory tightly, more cautiously," Mattel Chief Executive Ynon Kreiz said in an interview last week. "Everyone is trying to pace themselves."

Online shopping has helped as thousands of stores closed. Mattel said online sales doubled in North America in the latest quarter, while Hasbro said digital sales rose more than 10%.

But online merchants such as Amazon.com Inc. generally buy less inventory than large retailers, who place orders for items to fill shelves at thousands of stores. Also, as bricks-and-mortar retailers shifted to an online sales model, they didn't need as much product.

"As retailers moved to a digital model and stores were closed, their retail inventory requirements declined," Hasbro CEO Brian Goldner said on Monday's earnings call.

The tightening of inventory led to a 15% drop in revenue to $732 million at Mattel in the latest quarter, while Hasbro's revenue declined 29% to $860 million, when accounting for the recent acquisition of Entertainment One Ltd. and its Peppa Pig and other brands. Hasbro and Mattel each reported quarterly net losses.

Hasbro said it also lost out on some sales because factories, some of which were closed in the quarter, were unable to make enough games that were in high demand, such as Jenga, Battleship and Mouse Trap. Most of Hasbro and Mattel's toys are made outside the U.S.

Executives said that as more stores open, they expect better sales in the second half of the year, which includes the critical holiday season. The increased consumer spending on toys isn't likely "to retrench," Mr. Goldner said. "We expect it to continue to expand," he added.

BING GUAN/BLOOMBERG NEWS

The Boise, Idaho, grocer said it made $615 million in investments related to the pandemic.

Albertsons Gets Lift From Customers Eating at Home

By Jaewon Kang

Supermarket chain **Albertsons** Cos. said consumers are sticking with their new pandemic-driven habit of buying more groceries and eating more at home.

At the start of the coronavirus pandemic, shoppers stocked pantries with more than they could eat in the near term. Now, said Albertsons Chief Executive Vivek Sankaran, purchases are more in line with what consumers plan to eat before their next trip to the supermarket.

With people still eating mainly at home as the pandemic persists, he said, demand has been sustained at higher levels for Albertsons and other grocers.

"You're not going out. You're not going to ballgames. You're not traveling as much as you did," Mr. Sankaran said in an interview Monday.

Excluding fuel, sales at stores open at least 15 months rose about 27% from a year earlier for the quarter ended June 20. The company, which is the nation's second-largest grocery chain after Kroger Co., reported it continues to see higher traffic, demand and sales as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. Its total sales for the quarter rose about 21% to $22.8 billion, with digital sales more than tripling.

The food supply chain is stronger today than in the spring, particularly in the fresh categories, said Mr. Sankaran, who joined Albertsons from PepsiCo Inc. in 2019. But Albertsons is still experiencing shortages at some stores of cleaning products, packaged meat and baked goods heading into the fall.

The Boise, Idaho, owner of the Safeway and Jewel-Osco chains started trading publicly last month after years of unsuccessful attempts to list. Albertsons priced its initial public offering at $16 a share, below its initial target range. On Monday, the stock slid 5.4% to $15.24.

The company says it is still experiencing shortages of some products.

Albertsons didn't provide guidance for the fiscal year given the uncertainty with the coronavirus. The grocer said it expects sales to have increased in July, but at a lower rate than earlier in the year.

Food retailers in general have generated higher sales since the pandemic took hold in the U.S. While food supplies have improved, grocers and manufacturers are still playing catch-up for some staples.

As the number of coronavirus cases rises, grocers are introducing new measures such as mask mandates. They continue to heighten sanitation efforts, limit capacity and operate under shortened hours. Plexiglass shields and one-way aisles have become ubiquitous and new expenses related to the virus are putting pressure on margins.

Albertsons said it made $615 million in investments related to the pandemic, including $275 million in additional pay for employees. The grocer said it also incurred expenses related to civil unrest in certain markets in late May and June.

In recent years, Albertsons has focused on fueling growth by remodeling stores, investing in technology and centralizing how its divisions buy products. It also brought on new leadership.

Albertsons said Monday that it generated $586.2 million in profit in its fiscal first quarter. On an adjusted basis, earnings per share were $1.35, beating expectations of $1.29.

◆ Heard on the Street: Grocery chains deserve a look.....B12

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Huawei Woes Give Samsung a Shot

South Korean company sees opening for 5G while Chinese giant is stalled by geopolitics

By Elizabeth Koh

JUNG YEON-JE/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

Samsung sees 5G network equipment as a pillar for future growth. An ad for a Galaxy S20 5G phone.

SEOUL—The West's fight with China about 5G network equipment has handed an opportunity to South Korea's **Samsung Electronics** Co.

The U.S. and U.K. have barred from their 5G networks China's **Huawei Technologies** Co., the industry's largest player. Other European countries are weighing whether to follow suit. In response, Beijing is considering blocking two European suppliers and the industry's next largest manufacturers, **Nokia** Corp. and **Ericsson** AB, from sending their China-made product elsewhere, The Wall Street Journal reported last week.

The geopolitical squabbling gives Samsung, the industry's No. 4 player, a major chance to muscle into a telecom-equipment market it considers a pillar for future growth. Though deep-pocketed, Samsung has been a fringe networks player for decades, mostly servicing its home market. But with stagnating sales from its former cash cows in smartphones and televisions, Samsung has bet billions of dollars that telecom operators will prefer a supplier who sells both the network equipment and all the consumer products that connect to it.

Samsung also manufactures its network gear entirely in South Korea, lending it cover from the tit-for-tat restrictions that its main competitors lack.

Even before the U.K. reversed course this month on its approach to Huawei, Samsung already had made some inroads. In the overall network-gear market, Samsung's share of sales of prior-generation equipment represents just a few percentage points. In the 5G realm, the South Korean company controls roughly a seventh of the market where Huawei enjoys more than twice that, according to market research firm Dell'Oro Group.

Samsung's 5G sales could improve in the coming months, industry analysts say. It has dialed up its 5G marketing efforts, leaning on its end-to-end offerings in pitches to carriers and focusing on developing a future 6G service rather than the 2G or 3G coverage still needed in older markets. It has signed four new deals to provide 5G network gear in the past eight months, including in Canada and New Zealand.

The company rolled out a "6G Vision" white paper this month, touting technology like holograms that would be a digital twin of one's physical self. The technology is at best a decade away, but the messaging linked the future to today's reality, warning the transition to 6G will require even tighter cybersecurity protections.

In recent weeks, the company has been in discussions with some European operators about providing network equipment, particularly for 5G. Samsung executive vice president Kim Woo-june told a British parliamentary committee this month that the company could definitely build a 5G network in the U.K. if the opportunity arose, though he denied basing Samsung's strategy on what he called political winds.

"Wherever there's an opportunity, we'll go there with our products," Mr. Kim said.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry denied Beijing is weighing retaliation against the restrictions on Huawei.

But Nokia and Ericsson employ thousands in their Chinese manufacturing plants, and China, which has taken the lead in the early 5G rollout, has been allocating a greater share of its 5G contracts to domestic vendors: If global tensions escalate, Samsung is the most likely main player to reap the benefits of not being caught in the crossfire. The Seoul government is on relatively good terms with Washington and Beijing.

Intel's Top Engineer Quits Amid Tech Revamp

By Asa Fitch

Intel Corp. is shaking up its technology team and said its chief engineering officer was leaving the company days after the semiconductor maker surprised investors by disclosing delays on its newest processor design.

The executive, Venkata "Murthy" Renduchintala, had played a leading role in the company's bid to scale down the size of its transistors and compete with the likes of Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. and Samsung Electronics Co. Intel said Mr. Renduchintala, who joined the company in 2015 from Qualcomm Inc., would leave Aug. 3.

Intel has stumbled with development of some of its newest processors. Two years ago, it encountered delays in bringing its 10-nanometer technology to market. On Thursday, Intel shares plummeted after it said that its move to 7-nanometer chips was delayed by a year from its initial schedule. Chips that use smaller transistors can run more efficiently and use up less physical space.

Intel shares are down around 18% since last week's disclosure. Intel, long the largest U.S. semiconductor company by value, has now ceded that title to Nvidia Corp.

Intel's struggles come at a time Advanced Micro Devices Inc. has been winning market share. The smaller rival has won investor enthusiasm with a series of new chips that match or better those of Intel on many performance benchmarks. Shares of AMD, which is due to report quarterly earnings on Tuesday, have risen around 16% since Intel disclosed its latest product development setback.

Intel, on Monday, also said it was splitting its technology group into several teams reporting directly to the chief executive, Bob Swan. Ann Kelleher, a longtime Intel executive who oversees its manufacturing operations, will lead the Technology Development division, succeeding Mike Mayberry, who is retiring at the end of the year, reporting to the CEO, the company said. She will be in charge of overseeing the development of an even smaller chip design.

Intel said its manufacturing and operations are to be led by Keyvan Esfarjani.

Under Mr. Renduchintala, Intel had hoped to iron out chip-design and manufacturing issues that had plagued it in the past. Mr. Renduchintala couldn't be reached for comment.

Bezos Set To Testify In Congress

Continued from page B1

A spokesman for Mr. Bezos declined to comment.

Critics have questioned whether some of Amazon's practices put its own interests ahead of that customer-first principle, and lawmakers have been scrutinizing the company's competitive behavior as part of a broader examination of large technology companies since last year. Momentum grew for Mr. Bezos to testify after a Wall Street Journal article in April detailed the use of third-party seller data by company employees to help create competing Amazon-branded products.

Amazon, which launched an internal investigation because of the Journal story, has said it prohibits employees from using nonpublic, seller-specific data when determining which products to launch.

On July 21, the company released a report that touts its investment into small businesses, saying it is spending more than $30 billion to support small and medium-size sellers on its site. The report also says Amazon works with more than 2 million independent sellers, authors, content creators, developers and other businesses in the U.S.

Rep. David Cicilline (D., R.I.), chair of the House panel, said lawmakers over the past year have "heard some very disturbing testimony about the experiences of innovators and small businesses with Amazon."

"They are tremendous gatekeepers to a huge part of the economy," Mr. Cicilline said. "We want to look at in a very serious way the practices of Amazon."

Mr. Bezos' primary advisers for the hearing include top Amazon lawyer David Zapolsky and Jay Carney, Amazon's public relations and policy chief and a former White House press secretary to President Barack Obama.

—Ryan Tracy contributed to this article.

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Police Seeking Location Data On Google Users Face Scrutiny

By David Uberti

CYBERSECURITY

Police use of a type of warrant to monitor Google users' locations en masse is staring down its first legal and political challenges as scrutiny of law-enforcement tactics grows.

Criminal defendants in Virginia and San Francisco are disputing "geofence" warrants, which authorities can use to scan geographic areas and time periods for suspects through user location histories stored by technology companies. As these motions await arguments and potential decisions as soon as August, New York lawmakers are pushing legislation to ban the practice.

Police turned in both cases to **Alphabet** Inc.'s Google, which says the number of such requests grew 1,500% from 2017 to 2018, and an additional 500% from 2018 to 2019. The search and advertising company created a special process to fulfill the warrants but has raised concerns that the demands made by law enforcement invade privacy.

Privacy advocates fear compliance by Google could lead authorities to seek similar data from fitness trackers, ride-share apps and other companies if more of those businesses begin to store users' granular location histories to hone their products and services.

"We're going to see this ever-expanding universe of geolocation warrants that will be tracking huge numbers of people if we don't outlaw the practice," said Albert Fox Cahn, executive director of the Surveillance Technology Oversight Project, a nonprofit advocacy group.

The pushback coincidentally comes amid a drumbeat of criticism of law enforcement after the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis police custody in May.

New York state Sen. Luis Sepúlveda, a Democrat who is chairman of the state senate's Crime Victims, Crime and Correction Committee, co-sponsored a bill in April to outlaw the warrants and informal requests for such data.

Privacy advocates fear compliance by Google could affect other companies.

Mr. Sepúlveda warned that geofence warrants would be used disproportionately in communities of color like many other police tactics, such as stop-and-frisk.

San Francisco public defenders filed a motion last month to quash such a warrant used in the February 2019 arrest of LaQuan Dawes, 30 years old, in connection with a home burglary in the city's Sunset District.

They argued authorities' search for Google users within a half-block radius of the house over more than a two-hour period, which eventually zeroed in on Mr. Dawes, violated his Fourth Amendment rights against unreasonable search and seizure.

Separately in Virginia, defense lawyers are seeking an August hearing to make similar arguments on behalf of Okello Chatrie, a 25-year-old who is accused of armed robbery of a bank outside of Richmond. After police requested information about devices that passed within 150 meters of the crime scene over an hourlong period, Google combed through every user who opted into the location-history feature to narrow down potential matches, according to documents filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Roughly one-third of all Google users opted in as of last year, according to the company's filings in the case, sending information related to tens or potentially hundreds of millions of people to a database known internally as Sensorvault. A Google representative declined to provide precise numbers.

Lawyers for the company didn't take a position on the warrant in Mr. Chatrie's case, according to court documents. But they called the tactic "a significant incursion on privacy" while highlighting a potential for imprecise data.

A company spokesman declined to share the number of warrants the company receives.

Google built a special protocol to process the requests. First, Google searches Sensorvault to check which users passed through the area and during the time period specified, providing anonymized information to authorities.

After police decide which devices are of interest, they may compel Google to identify specific users.

"We vigorously protect the privacy of our users while supporting the important work of law enforcement," Richard Salgado, Google's director of law enforcement and information security, said in an email.

The bill to ban such searches in New York has stalled amid the pandemic, but Mr. Sepúlveda and Sen. John Liu, another co-sponsor in the state senate, hope to take it up again as the crisis subsides.

Mr. Sepúlveda, the New York state senator, urged in an interview that Google push back harder against authorities. "They stand to lose a lot if people realize what's going on," he said.

Other Companies' Policies Vary

It is unclear how many other companies comply with these police demands.

Facebook Inc. receives such warrants but doesn't fulfill them because the social media platform has less-precise location data than device makers and limitations in how the data is stored, a spokesperson said. He declined to explain those limitations.

Ride-sharing company **Lyft** Inc. potentially would comply if warrants don't target "all users in a large geographical area," a spokeswoman said, or for "overly broad time periods," among other criteria. She didn't define those terms.

Fitness-tracking firm **Garmin** Ltd. hasn't received such requests and wouldn't fulfill them because "it would be very invasive of our users' privacy rights," according to a representative.

The Facebook spokesperson said the company has "been supportive" of the New York bill but declined to elaborate.

Richard Salgado, Google's director of law enforcement and information security, said the company is encouraged to see a discussion about "the need for rules to govern untargeted access to data by law enforcement."

WSJ PRO CYBERSECURITY
wsj.com/pro/cybersecurity

BRIAN SNYDER/REUTERS

The company said some of its systems were encrypted.

Garmin Says Hack Disabled Software

By Euirim Choi

Garmin Ltd., the maker of navigation systems for cars, boats and planes, said it was the target of a cyberattack that made its software unavailable for several days.

The company, which also makes smartwatches and fitness trackers, said Monday there was no indication that any customer data was accessed or stolen. It said systems are being restored and should be back to normal over the next few days.

"We do not expect any material impact to our operations or financial results because of this outage," the Olathe, Kan.-based company said in a statement. "As our affected systems are restored, we expect some delays as the backlog of information is being processed."

While the full extent of the outage is still unclear, Garmin said it affected several services including Garmin Pilot, a mobile app providing flight-plan and weather data to pilots, and Garmin Connect, a tool for tracking health and fitness activity on Garmin devices. The company also said the outage interrupted company communications, customer service and its website.

As of Monday morning, access to several Garmin services affected by the outage had been at least partially restored.

Garmin technology is widely used in the aviation industry but a person familiar with the industry said he was unaware of any reports of planes being grounded as a result of the outage.

The Federal Aviation Administration didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

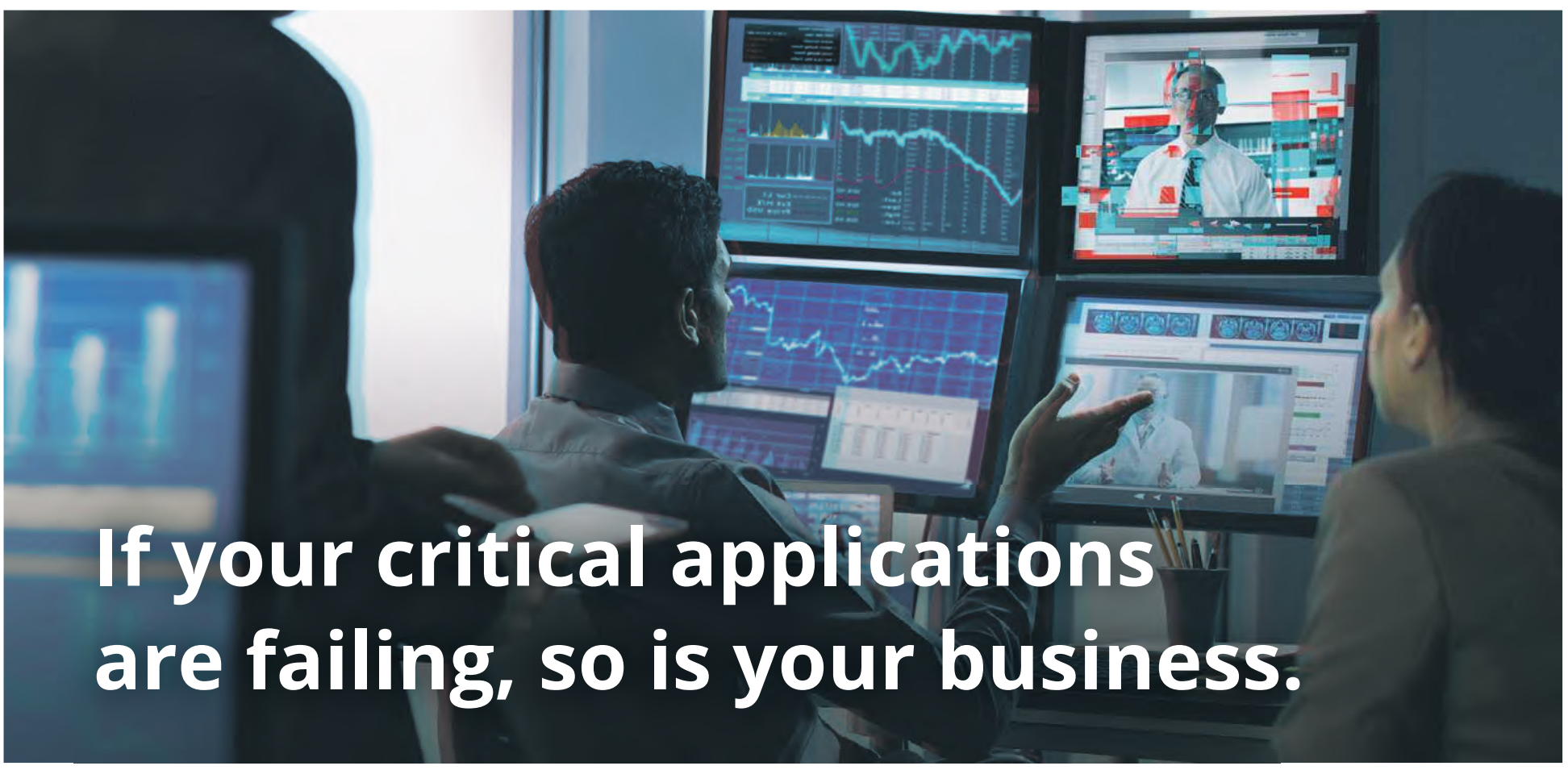
Garmin said the hackers encrypted some of its systems but stopped short of saying it involved a ransomware attack, in which the perpetrators demand a ransom to unlock the target's data.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation, which often deals with cybercrimes, declined to comment.

Ransomware attacks have paralyzed large organizations before. In 2017, an attack that the U.S. said was linked to the North Korean government crippled several hospitals in the U.K.

On New Year's Eve, Travelex, a company that owns a chain of money-exchange shops, suffered a ransomware attack that later led the company to pay a multimillion-dollar ransom.

Garmin is scheduled to report its second-quarter earnings on Wednesday.



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Costs of Cloud Computing Are Soaring

Demand rises as more people work from home, but companies try to cut spending

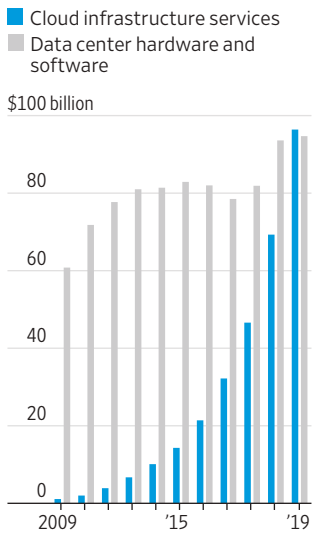
By Aaron Tilley

The pandemic has made business more dependent on cloud computing than ever—and companies are now racing to rein in the soaring costs.

Cloud spending at Audi Business Innovation GmbH, a unit of Volkswagen AG-owned car maker Audi, jumped 12% between March and April, with employees using more of the rented, remote computing power and software tools to work from home. But with car sales plunging, companywide budgets were under pressure.

SEAN GALLUP/GETTY IMAGES

Big players include Amazon, Microsoft, and Alphabet's Google unit.



Source: Synergy Research Group

Audi Business, which serves as an internal technology department for parts of Volkswagen, worked with Amazon.com Inc.'s cloud services unit to shut off unused cloud systems, and moved one cloud service to a cheaper third-party option sitting on top of Amazon's cloud. With the changes, Audi Business now expects its costs with Amazon Web Services to fall 30% this month, said Sven Sonnendorfer, who manages cloud issues for the Audi unit.

"If there's any possibility to decrease our costs, we need to work on that," Mr. Sonnendorfer said.

The corporate shift to the cloud has accelerated, with businesses last year spending an estimated $96.4 billion on cloud infrastructure services, surpassing their spending on in-house data-center hardware and software for the first time, said John Dinsdale, chief analyst at Synergy Research Group.

The pandemic has further fueled demand, as more activity has shifted online, delivering a boon for big cloud players including Amazon, Microsoft Corp., and Alphabet Inc.'s Google unit, and helping buoy the tech industry during the broad economic slump. Amazon, the industry leader, said in April that its cloud division grew 33% to $10.22 billion in the first quarter. It reports its latest results Thursday.

Booming business for those companies is the result of more spending by their clients at a time when many businesses are struggling with the economic impact of coronavirus. Businesses that spend heavily on cloud services—which for the biggest companies can run to hundreds of millions of dollars annually—typically get discounts from their providers linked to the size of their future usage commitments, which can entail double-digit increases, said Corey Quinn of the Duckbill Group, a company that helps customers lower their Amazon cloud bills.

Now, some are renegotiating deals that build in less growth. "People are being more conservative," Mr. Quinn said. And as companies examine their cloud spending, some are finding that they overestimated their needs, he said.

Entur AS, which runs ticketing and trip-planning services for Norway's transportation system, has doubled its annual spending in each of the past three years on cloud services, mainly from Google. That was fine while the business was healthy, said Tor Magnus Castberg, who leads cloud operations for the company.

Then Covid-19 sent ticket sales nosediving. Entur's cloud use fell more than 50%—but to the company's shock, its monthly Google cloud bill of around $100,000 rose 7% between January and April because the applications had to be kept running. Entur was able to stabilize its spending.

A Google spokesman said it wouldn't comment on customer payments terms.

General Mills Adds Outside Producers to Meet Demand

By Mark Maurer

General Mills Inc. is relying more than ever on third-party manufacturers to meet heightened demand for its products, though asking others comes at a significant cost to the maker of cereal and soups.

Packaged-food companies are striving to keep grocery shelves stocked during the coronavirus pandemic as consumers continue to eat more meals at home.

Disruptions in the supply chain have made it hard for manufacturers such as Minneapolis-based General Mills to replenish stores with Progresso soups and Betty Crocker cake mixes, despite its factories operating at capacity.

To bolster its supply chain, General Mills has struck several new partnerships with contract manufacturers and suppliers of raw materials—and expanded existing ones—since March, when demand started to soar, finance chief Kofi Bruce said.

General Mills will boost the number of partners by as much as 20% on top of the 200 it had before the pandemic, said John Church, chief supply chain and global business solutions officer at General Mills. The packaged-food giant expects these third parties to be part of its supply chain until at least next summer, the executives said.

The company has worked with manufacturing partners for decades in the U.S. and Europe, contributing to the making of roughly 30% of General Mills's North American products, Mr. Church said.

The existing relationships have made it easier to find partners that are ready to pick up production. But these services come at a higher price because of heightened competition, finance chief Mr. Bruce said. "It will cost us more to operate in this environment," Mr. Bruce said. "But these are the things that are necessary for us to be agile and nimble and prepared to deal with a longer period of sustained higher demand."

LUKE SHARRETT/BLOOMBERG NEWS

The cereal maker seeks to boost the number of partners by 20%.

Mr. Bruce declined to name the cost of increased outsourcing, but described it as "tens of percentage points higher cost versus an internal manufacturing cost."

Still, General Mills views it as a clear alternative to building new plants, in part because of the amount of time it would take. The company operates 47 food-production facilities globally, including 24 in the U.S.

General Mills also plans to significantly increase capital spending to support its operations. It is weighing to what extent it can streamline production to make enhancements such as adding plant lines or removing bottlenecks from existing lines.

"What's unknowable right now is how long you are going to need the additional capacity, which is the benefit of seeking out an external supply-chain capacity solution," said Mr. Bruce, who joined the company in 2009 and became CFO in February. "You're not stuck with the cost of those assets if the demand evaporates or goes away pretty quickly."

Typically, these other manufacturers would make a portion of a type of product—ranging from dinner kits to granola bars—or they would test out a new product. "If you need a place to sleep for the night, you can build a house or you can rent a room in a hotel that's already built," Mr. Church said.

The company can only partially offset that cost by running its internal plants at full capacity and spreading the fixed costs over as many units as possible.

The company also tries to offset higher operating costs by managing margins in manufacturing, logistics and sourcing efficiency in an effort to protect against cost inflation, Mr. Bruce said.

General Mills has to accept lower profit margins on the outsourced products to maintain its position against rivals, said John Baumgartner, an analyst at Wells Fargo & Co.

The company reported a 16% increase in comparable sales for the most recent quarter ended May 31.

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NOTICE OF SALE

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re: GNC HOLDINGS, INC., *et al.*, Debtors.[1] — Chapter 11, Case No. 20-11662 (KBO) (Jointly Administered) Re: Docket No. 227

NOTICE OF SALE, BIDDING PROCEDURES, AUCTION, AND SALE HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "***Debtors***") each filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "***Court***") on June 23, 2020 (the "***Petition Date***").

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, on July 1, 2020, the Debtors filed a motion [Docket No. 227] (the "***Motion***")[2] with the Court seeking entry of orders, among other things, (a) approving the Debtors' bidding procedures (the "***Bidding Procedures***") in connection with the proposed auction (the "***Auction***") for the sale (the "***Sale***") of substantially all of the Debtors' assets (the "***Assets***"), (b) approving procedures for the assumption and assignment of executory contracts and unexpired leases in connection with the Sale, including notice of proposed cure amounts (the "***Assumption Procedures***"), (c) approving the form and manner of notices related to the Sale and Assumption Procedures, and (d) establishing dates and deadlines in connection with the Sale.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, on July 22, 2020, the Court entered an order [Docket No. 559] (the "***Bidding Procedures Order***") granting certain of the relief sought in the Motion, including, among other things, approving the (a) Bidding Procedures, which establish the key dates and times related to the Sale and the Auction and (b) Assumption Procedures. All interested bidders should carefully read the Bidding Procedures Order and the Bidding Procedures in their entirety.[3]

CONTACT PERSON FOR PARTIES INTERESTED IN SUBMITTING A BID. The Bidding Procedures set forth the requirements for becoming a Qualified Bidder and submitting a Qualified Bid, and any party interested in making an offer to purchase the Assets must comply strictly with the Bidding Procedures. Only Qualified Bids will be considered by the Debtors, in accordance with the Bidding Procedures.

Any interested bidder should contact, as soon as possible: Evercore Group L.L.C., 55 E. 52nd Street New York, NY 10055 Attn: William Jurist (William.Jurist@Evercore.com), Alexandra Vergeau (Alexandra.Vergeau@Evercore.com), and Ed Lee (Ed.Lee@Evercore.com).

OBTAINING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. Copies of the Motion, the Bidding Procedures, and the Bidding Procedures Order, as well as all related exhibits, and all other documents filed with the Court, are available free of charge on the Debtors' case information website, located at https://cases.primeclerk.com/gnc or by calling (844) 974-2132 (Domestic) or (347) 505-7137 (International).

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES[4]

1. **Bid Deadline**. Subject to extension as set forth in paragraph 10 of the Bidding Procedures Order, the deadline to submit a Qualified Bid is **September 4, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time)**.

2. **Auction**. If more than one Qualified Bid is received by the Bid Deadline, the Debtors will conduct the Auction with respect to the Debtors' Assets. Subject to extension as set forth in paragraph 10 of the Bidding Procedures Order, the Auction will commence on **September 8, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., prevailing Eastern Time**, at the offices of Latham & Watkins LLP, 330 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 2800, Chicago, Illinois 60611, telephonically, or by video via Zoom, or such later time or other place as the Debtors will timely notify all Qualified Bidders, in consultation with the Consultation Parties. Only the Debtors, the Consultation Parties, and Qualified Bidders will be permitted to attend the Auction; *provided* that, in addition, any party in interest that requests permission from the Debtors to attend the Auction shall also be permitted to attend. Only Qualified Bidders will be entitled to make overbids at the Auction. **All interested or potentially affected parties should carefully read the Bidding Procedures and the Bidding Procedures Order.**

3. **Auction Objection and Sale Objection Deadlines**. Subject to extension as set forth in paragraph 10 of the Bidding Procedures Order, the deadline to file an objection to (i) the Sale and/or (ii) the potential assumption or assumption and assignment of the Assigned Contracts and cure amounts related thereto (except as otherwise set forth in the Assumption Procedures) is **August 21, 2020 at 4:00 pm. (prevailing Eastern Time)** (the "***Sale Objection Deadline***"). If the Auction is held, subject to extension as set forth in paragraph 10 of the Bidding Procedures Order, the deadline to file an objection to the conduct of the Auction, and the choice of Successful Bidder and/or Back-Up Bidder is **September 9, 2020 at 4:00 pm. (prevailing Eastern Time)** (the "***Auction Objection Deadline***").

4. **Sale Hearing**. Subject to extension as set forth in paragraph 10 of the Bidding Procedures Order, a hearing (the "***Sale Hearing***") to consider approval of the proposed Sale **free and clear of all liens, claims, interests and encumbrances** will be held on **September 14, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time)** before the Honorable Karen B. Owens, Bankruptcy Judge, United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, at District of Delaware, at 824 Market Street North, 6th Floor, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, or at such other place (which may be by video conference) and time as the Debtors shall notify all Qualified Bidders, the Consultation Parties, and all other parties entitled to attend the Auction. The Debtors have the right to adjourn or cancel the Auction at or prior to the Auction.

5. **Adequate Assurance Objection**. Subject to extension as set forth in paragraph 10 of the Bidding Procedures Order, in the event the Successful Bidder is not the Stalking Horse Bidder, objections to adequate assurance of future performance of the Assigned Contracts by such Successful Bidder must be filed with the Court and served on the Objection Notice Parties no later than **September 15, 2020 at 8:00 p.m., (prevailing Eastern Time)** ("***Adequate Assurance Objection Deadline***").

6. **Adequate Assurance Hearing**. Subject to extension as set forth in paragraph 10 of the Bidding Procedures Order, in the event the Successful Bidder is not the Stalking Horse Bidder, objections to adequate assurance of future performance of the Assigned Contracts by such Successful Bidder will be heard by the Court on **September 18, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time)** (the "***Adequate Assurance Hearing***") before the Honorable Karen B. Owens, Bankruptcy Judge, United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, at District of Delaware, at 824 Market Street North, 6th Floor, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, or at such other place (which may be by video conference) and time as the Debtors shall notify all Qualified Bidders, the Consultation Parties, and all other parties entitled to attend the Auction.

7. **Modification of Dates**. Notwithstanding anything in the Bidding Procedures Order to the contrary, if the Debtors have not filed a Stalking Horse Selection Notice within one business day after August 3, 2020, the Sale Objection Deadline will be extended to August 28, the Bid Deadline will be extended to September 11, 2020, the Auction date will be extended to September 15, 2020, the Reply Deadline and Auction Objection Deadline will be extended to September 16, 2020, the Sale Hearing will be extended to September 17, 2020 at 1:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time, the Adequate Assurance Objection Deadline will be extended to September 22, 2020, and the Adequate Assurance Hearing will be extended to September 29, at 1:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time. The dates and deadlines set forth in the Bidding Procedures Order are subject to further modification by the Debtors in accordance with the Bidding Procedures.

FILING OBJECTIONS. Sale Objections, Auction Objections, and Adequate Assurance Objections, if any, must (a) be in writing, (b) state, with specificity, the legal and factual bases thereof, (c) be filed with the Court by no later than **the Sale Objection Deadline, Auction Objection Deadline, or Adequate Assurance Objection Deadline**, as applicable, and (d) be served on (i) co-counsel to the Debtors, (A) Latham & Watkins LLP, 330 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 2800, Chicago, Illinois 60611, Attn: Richard A. Levy (richard.levy@lw.com) and Caroline A. Reckler (caroline.reckler@lw.com), and (B) Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP, 1000 North King Street, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn: Michael Nestor (mnestor@ycst.com) and Kara Hammond Coyle (kcoyle@ycst.com); (ii) counsel to the administrative agent under the DIP Term Facility, Dorsey & Whitney LLP, 51 West 52nd Street, New York, New York 10019, Attn: Erin E. Trigg and Samuel S. Kohn (email: trigg.erin@dorsey.com and kohn.samuel@dorsey.com); (iii) counsel to the Ad Hoc FILO Term Lender Group (A) Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, 1285 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10019, Attn: Andrew N. Rosenberg, Jacob Adlerstein, and Douglas R. Keeton (email: arosenberg@paulweiss.com, jadlerstein@paulweiss.com, and dkeeton@paulweiss.com); and (B) Landis Rath & Cobb LLP, 919 Market Street, Suite 1800, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn: Richard S. Cobb (cobb@lrclaw.com); (iv) counsel to the Ad Hoc Group of Crossover Lenders (A) Milbank LLP, 2029 Century Park East, Los Angeles, California 90067, Attn: Mark Shinderman, Brett Goldblatt, and Daniel B. Denny (email: mshinderman@milbank.com; bgoldblatt@milbank.com; and ddenny@milbank.com); and (B) Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell LLP, 1201 North Market Street, 16th Floor, P.O. Box 1347, Wilmington, Delaware 19899-1347, Attn: Robert J. Dehney (rdehney@mnat.com); (v) the Office of the United States Trustee for the District of Delaware, 844 King Street, Suite 2207, Lockbox 35, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Attn: Jane Leamy (email: jane.m.leamy@usdoj.gov); and (vi) counsel to the Committee, Lowenstein Sandler LLP, 1251 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020 Attn: Jeffrey Cohen and Lindsay H. Sklar (emails: jcohen@lowenstein.com and lsklar@lowenstein.com) and One Lowenstein Drive, Roseland, NJ 070686, Attn: Michael S. Etkin, Michael Savetsky, Nicole Fulfree and Colleen M. Maker (email: metkin@lowenstein.com, msavetsky@lowenstein.com, nfulfree@lowenstein.com, and cmaker@lowenstein.com).

CONSEQUENCES OF FAILING TO TIMELY ASSERT AN OBJECTION. ***Any party who fails to make a timely Sale Objection on or before the Sale Objection Deadline in accordance with the Bidding Procedures Order and this Notice shall be forever barred from asserting any Sale Objection, including with respect to the transfer of the assets free and clear of all liens, claims, encumbrances and other interests.***

Any party who fails to make a timely Auction Objection on or before the Auction Objection Deadline in accordance with the Bidding Procedures Order and this Notice shall be forever barred from asserting any Auction Objection, including with respect to the transfer of the assets free and clear of all liens, claims, encumbrances and other interests.

Any party who fails to make a timely Adequate Assurance Objection on or before the Adequate Assurance Objection Deadline in accordance with the Bidding Procedures Order and this Notice shall be forever barred from asserting any Adequate Assurance Objection, including with respect to the transfer of the assets free and clear of all liens, claims, encumbrances and other interests.

NO SUCCESSOR LIABILITY. ***The Sale will be free and clear of, among other things, any claim arising from any conduct of the Debtors prior to the closing of the Sale, whether known or unknown, whether due or to become due, whether accrued, absolute, contingent or otherwise, so long as such claim arises out of or relates to events occurring prior to the closing of the Sale. Accordingly, as a result of the Sale, the Successful Bidder will not be a successor to any of the Debtors by reason of any theory of law or equity, and the Successful Bidder will have no liability, except as expressly provided in the Successful Bidder's asset purchase agreement, for any liens, claims, encumbrances and other interests against or in any of the Debtors under any theory of law, including successor liability theories.***

Dated: July 23, 2020, Wilmington, Delaware, **YOUNG CONAWAY STARGATT & TAYLOR, LLP,** */s/ Joseph M. Mulvihill* , Michael R. Nestor (No. 3526), Kara Hammond Coyle (No. 4410), Andrew L. Magaziner (No. 5426), Joseph M. Mulvihill (No. 6061), Rodney Square, 1000 North King Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Telephone: (302) 576-3572, Facsimile: (302) 571-1253, Email: mnestor@ycst.com, kcoyle@ycst.com, amagaziner@ycst.com, jmulvihill@ycst.com -and- **LATHAM & WATKINS LLP,** Richard A. Levy (admitted *pro hac vice*), Caroline A. Reckler (admitted *pro hac vice*), Asif Attarwala (admitted *pro hac vice*), Brett V. Newman (admitted *pro hac vice*), 330 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 2800, Chicago, Illinois 60611, Telephone: (312) 876-7700, Facsimile: (312) 993-9767, Email: richard.levy@lw.com, caroline.reckler@lw.com, asif.attarwala@lw.com, brett.newman@lw.com -and- George A. Davis (admitted *pro hac vice*), Andrew C. Ambruoso (admitted *pro hac vice),* Jeffrey T. Mispagel (admitted *pro hac vice*), 885 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022, Telephone: (212) 906-1200, Facsimile: (212) 751-4864, Email: george.davis@lw.com, andrew.ambruoso@lw.com, jeffrey.mispagel@lw.com, *Counsel for Debtors and Debtors in Possession*

[1] The debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases, along with the last four digits of each debtor's United States federal tax identification number, if applicable, or other applicable identification number, are: GNC Holdings, Inc. (6244); GNC Parent LLC (7572); GNC Corporation (5170); General Nutrition Centers, Inc. (5168); General Nutrition Corporation (4574); General Nutrition Investment Company (3878); Lucky Oldco Corporation (7141); GNC Funding, Inc. (7837); GNC International Holdings, Inc. (9873); GNC China Holdco, LLC (0004); GNC Headquarters LLC (7550); Gustine Sixth Avenue Associates, Ltd. (0731); GNC Canada Holdings, Inc. (3879); General Nutrition Centres Company (0939); GNC Government Services, LLC (2226); GNC Puerto Rico Holdings, Inc. (4559); and GNC Puerto Rico, LLC (7234). The debtors' mailing address is 300 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222.

[2] Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

[3] To the extent of any inconsistencies between the Bidding Procedures and the summary descriptions of the Bidding Procedures in this notice, the terms of the Bidding Procedures shall control in all respects.

[4] The following dates and deadlines may be extended by the Debtors or the Court pursuant to the terms of the Bidding Procedures and the Bidding Procedures Order.

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

UCC Public Sale Notice

Please take notice that Jones Lang LaSalle ("**JLL**"), on behalf of PARTNERS CAPITAL PHOENIX FUND II LTD – DIVERSIFIED INCOME FUND (the "**Secured Party**") offers for sale at public auction on **Thursday, August 6, 2020, at 11:00 a.m.** (Eastern Time), via audio/video teleconference, in connection with a Uniform Commercial Code sale: (i) 100% of the limited liability company membership interests in ASHFORD FOSHAY GP LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (the "**General Partner of Mortgage Borrower**"), which represent a 0.5% ownership interest in ASHFORD FOSHAY LP (the "**Mortgage Borrower**"), which is the owner of the property commonly known as the W Hotel in Minneapolis, Minnesota (the "**Property**"); (ii) 100% of the limited partnership interests in Mortgage Borrower, which represents a 99.5% of the ownership interest in the Mortgage Borrower; and (iii) 100% of the limited liability company membership interests in ASHFORD TRS FOSHAY LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, which represents 100% of the ownership interest in ASHFORD TRS FOSHAY LLC (the "**Master Tenant**"), the tenant pursuant to a certain operating lease entered into between Mortgage Borrower and Master Tenant at the Property (the interests in General Partner of Mortgage Borrower, Mortgage Borrower and Master Tenant described in (i), (ii) and (iii) above are collectively referred to as the "**Interests**").

The Secured Party, as lender, made a loan (the "**Mezzanine Loan**") to the Mezzanine Borrower. In connection with the Mezzanine Loan, the Mezzanine Borrower granted to the Secured Party a first priority lien on the Interests pursuant to that certain (i) Pledge and Security Agreement (the "**Pledge Agreement 1**"), dated as of November 10, 2015, between Mezzanine Borrower and the Secured Party, and (ii) Pledge and Security Agreement (the "**Pledge Agreement 2**", together with Pledge Agreement 1, the "**Pledge Agreement**"), dated as of November 10, 2015, between ASHFORD TRS FOSHAY MEZZ LLC ("**Pledgor**") and Secured Party. The Secured Party is offering the Interests for sale in connection with the foreclosure on the pledge of such Interests. The Mezzanine Loan is subordinate to (i) a mortgage loan to Mortgage Borrower (the "**Mortgage Loan**"); and (ii) other obligations and liabilities of the Mortgage Borrower that are otherwise affecting the Property.

The sale of the Interests will be subject to all applicable third-party consents and regulatory approvals, if any. Without limitation to the foregoing, please take notice that there are specific requirements for any potential successful bidder in connection with (i) obtaining information and (ii) bidding on the Interests, including but not limited to, (1) that each bidder must be a "Qualified Transferee" as that term is defined in that certain Intercreditor Agreement, dated May 3, 2013 (the "**Intercreditor Agreement**"), entered into by and among the Secured Party, the holder of the Mortgage Loan, and the holder of the Mezzanine Loan, as well as complying with any and all other requirements thereunder; (2) that the successful bidder must satisfy all of the applicable requirements of the Intercreditor Agreement, including but not limited to Section 6 thereof; and (3) that each bidder must deliver such documents and pay such amounts as required by the Intercreditor and the applicable governing documents relating to the Interests. Please note, meeting any requirements of the Intercreditor Agreement shall be at the sole risk, cost, and expense of a prospective bidder.

The Interests are being offered as a single lot, "as-is, where-is", with no express or implied warranties, representations, statements or conditions of any kind made by the Secured Party or any person acting for or on behalf of the Secured Party, without any recourse whatsoever to the Secured Party or any other person acting for or on behalf of the Secured Party and each bidder must make its own inquiry regarding the Interests. The winning bidder shall be responsible for the payment of all transfer taxes, stamp duties and similar taxes incurred in connection with the purchase of the Interests.

Secured Party reserves the right to credit bid, set a minimum reserve price, reject all bids (including, without limitation, any bid that it deems to have been made by a bidder that is unable to satisfy the requirements imposed by Secured Party upon prospective bidders in connection with the sale or to whom in Secured Party's sole judgment a sale may not lawfully be made), terminate or adjourn the sale to another time, without further notice, and to sell the Interests at a subsequent public or private sale and to impose any other commercially reasonable conditions upon the sale of the Interests as Secured Party may deem proper. Secured Party further reserves the right to determine the qualifications of any bidder, including a prospective bidder's ability to close the transaction on the terms and conditions referenced herein and to modify these terms of sale. Secured Party further reserves the right to verify that each certificate for the Interests to be sold bears a legend substantially to the effect that such interests have not been registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "**Securities Act**"), and to impose such other limitations or conditions in connection with the sale of the Interests as the Secured Party deems necessary or advisable in order to comply with the Securities Act or any other applicable law.

All bids (other than credit bids of the Secured Party) must be for cash, and the successful bidder must be prepared to deliver immediately available good funds within forty-eight (48) hours after the sale and otherwise comply with the bidding requirements. Further information concerning the Interests, the requirements for obtaining information, the requirements for bidding on the interests, and the Terms of Sale can be found at http://www.wminneapolisuccforeclosure.com/ or by contacting JLL using the contact information below.

Contact Information for Jones Lang LaSalle:
Attn: Brett Rosenberg, 212-812-5926, brett.rosenberg@am.jll.com

PUBLIC NOTICES

Cirque du Soleil Entertainment Group – Notice of Sale and Investment Solicitation Process

On June 29, 2020, Cirque du Soleil Entertainment Group (the "Company") announced that the Company and certain of its affiliated companies have filed for protection from creditors under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act ("CCAA") in response to immense disruption and forced show closures as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. On June 30, 2020, the Superior Court of Québec for the District of Montréal (Commercial Division) (the "Court") granted the Company's application and Ernst & Young Inc. was appointed monitor (in such capacity, the "Monitor"). In addition, on July 10, 2020, the Court issued an amended and restated initial order and approved, among other things, the appointment of National Bank Financial and Greenhill & Co, Inc. as co-financial advisors to the Company (the "Financial Advisors").

On July 17, 2020, the Court issued an order (the "SISP Order") (i) approving, among other things, the asset purchase agreement dated as of July 15, 2020 between the Company and a group of its existing first lien and second lien secured lenders (the "APA"), and (ii) authorizing and directing the Company to undertake a sale and investment solicitation process supervised by the Court and the Monitor (the "SISP"). The SISP Order requires the Company to issue this press release to announce the initiation of the SISP.

The SISP is intended to solicit interest in, and opportunities for, an equity investment in, or a sale of the assets of, the Company. The SISP sets out the terms and procedures for a fair and efficient sale process so as to obtain the highest and best offer for the Company's business operations and activities. The offer pursuant to the APA serves as the "stalking horse" bid for the SISP. Pursuant to the SISP, all bids and deposits are due on August 18, 2020 and if a superior offer is received, the Company, in consultation with the Monitor and with the assistance of the Financial Advisors, will conduct an auction, starting on August 25, 2020, to determine the highest and best offer.

Those interested in participating in this SISP can contact the Monitor and the Financial Advisors to receive additional information. Their contact information is specified in Schedule B of the SISP.

Copies of the SISP Order and the SISP may be obtained from the website of the Monitor at www.ey.com/ca/cirque.

Forward Looking Information

This news release includes certain statements and information that may constitute forward-looking information and statements within the meaning of applicable securities laws in Canada and the United States. Forward-looking statements may generally be identified by the use of the words "will", "continues", "anticipates" and "intends" and variations or similar expressions which include, but are not limited to, statements relating to the CCAA proceedings and the SISP.

Forward-looking information and statements involve and are subject to assumptions and known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors which may cause actual events, results, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from future events, results, performance, and achievements expressed or implied by forward-looking information and statements herein. Although the Company believes that any forward-looking information and statements herein are reasonable, in light of the use of assumptions and the significant risks and uncertainties inherent in such information and statements, there can be no assurance that any such forward-looking information and statements will prove to be accurate, and accordingly readers are advised to rely on their own evaluation of such risks and uncertainties and should not place undue reliance upon such forward-looking information and statements. Any forward-looking information and statements herein are made as of the date hereof, and except as required by applicable laws, the Company assumes no obligation and disclaims any intention to update or revise any forward-looking information and statements herein or to update the reasons that actual events or results could or do differ from those projected in any forward looking information and statements herein, whether as a result of new information, future events or result, changes in the CCAA proceedings or otherwise, except as required by applicable laws.

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MARKETS DIGEST

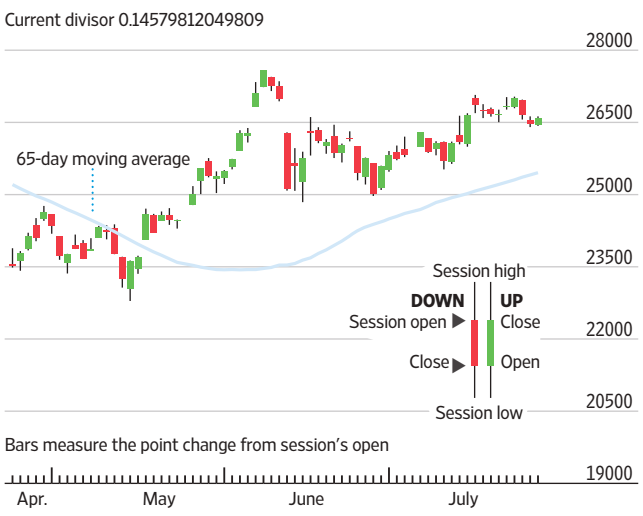
EQUITIES

Dow Jones Industrial Average

26584.77 ▲114.88, or 0.43%

High, low, open and close for each trading day of the past three months.

	Last	Year ago
Trailing P/E ratio	23.56	19.37
P/E estimate *	24.00	17.14
Dividend yield	2.45	2.19
All-time high	29551.42, 02/12/20	



S&P 500 Index

3239.41 ▲23.78, or 0.74%

High, low, open and close for each trading day of the past three months.

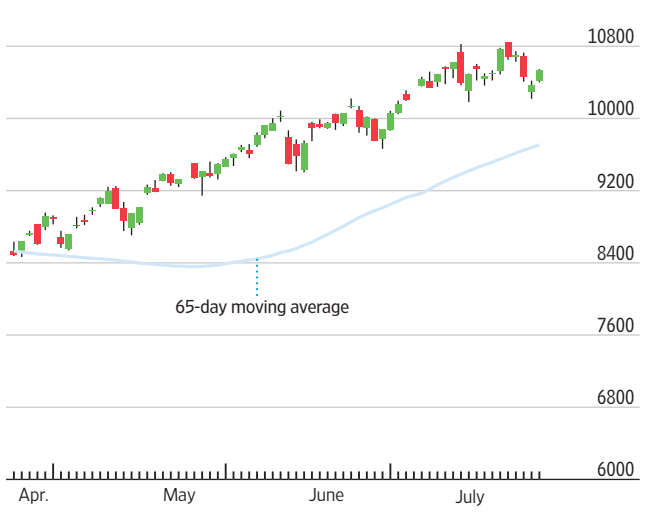
	Last	Year ago
Trailing P/E ratio *	30.59	23.15
P/E estimate *	25.47	18.15
Dividend yield *	1.90	1.86
All-time high	3386.15, 02/19/20	

Nasdaq Composite Index

10536.27 ▲173.09, or 1.67%

High, low, open and close for each trading day of the past three months.

	Last	Year ago
Trailing P/E ratio *†	32.92	25.06
P/E estimate *†	30.84	22.12
Dividend yield *†	0.85	1.00
All-time high:	10767.09, 07/20/20	



*Weekly P/E data based on as-reported earnings from Birinyi Associates Inc; †Based on Nasdaq-100 Index

Major U.S. Stock-Market Indexes

	High	Low	Latest Close	Net chg	% chg	52-Week High	52-Week Low	52-Week % chg	% chg YTD	% chg 3-yr. ann.
Dow Jones										
Industrial Average	26625.46	26426.92	**26584.77**	114.88	0.43	29551.42	18591.93	-2.3	-6.8	6.8
Transportation Avg	9853.29	9677.55	**9817.42**	87.30	0.90	11304.97	6703.63	-8.9	-9.9	2.2
Utility Average	825.78	808.10	**813.02**	-12.72	-1.54	960.89	610.89	-0.7	-7.5	4.0
Total Stock Market	33056.32	32750.86	**33040.36**	279.15	0.85	34631.28	22462.76	6.5	0.02	8.8
Barron's 400	701.62	694.09	**701.51**	7.02	1.01	746.64	455.11	0.8	-4.2	2.4
Nasdaq Stock Market										
Nasdaq Composite	10546.44	10399.86	**10536.27**	173.09	1.67	10767.09	6860.67	27.0	17.4	18.2
Nasdaq 100	10689.55	10527.64	**10674.38**	191.25	1.82	10952.08	6994.29	33.6	22.2	21.7
S&P										
500 Index	3241.43	3214.25	**3239.41**	23.78	0.74	3386.15	2237.40	7.2	0.3	9.4
MidCap 400	1867.63	1843.01	**1867.27**	17.33	0.94	2106.12	1218.55	-5.4	-9.5	1.8
SmallCap 600	861.98	848.15	**861.83**	10.24	1.20	1041.03	595.67	-10.0	-15.6	-0.2
Other Indexes										
Russell 2000	1484.66	1464.48	**1484.65**	17.10	1.16	1705.22	991.16	-5.4	-11.0	1.2
NYSE Composite	12556.56	12444.51	**12553.13**	91.35	0.73	14183.20	8777.38	-5.1	-9.8	1.6
Value Line	460.31	455.15	**460.29**	3.34	0.73	562.05	305.71	-14.1	-16.6	-4.6
NYSE Arca Biotech	5916.76	5769.80	**5913.02**	143.22	2.48	6142.96	3855.67	27.8	16.7	14.3
NYSE Arca Pharma	662.08	654.49	**660.59**	5.17	0.79	672.00	494.36	11.6	1.1	7.6
KBW Bank	74.81	73.71	**74.38**	-1.17	-1.55	114.12	56.19	-27.1	-34.4	-8.0
PHLX§ Gold/Silver	160.56	154.87	**158.21**	7.52	4.99	158.21	70.12	72.3	48.0	23.5
PHLX§ Oil Service	37.94	37.03	**37.93**	0.56	1.50	80.99	21.47	-48.9	-51.6	-34.5
PHLX§ Semiconductor	2105.58	2056.50	**2104.62**	65.91	3.23	2110.47	1286.84	31.7	13.8	24.2
Cboe Volatility	26.94	24.55	**24.74**	-1.10	-4.26	82.69	11.54	92.8	79.5	34.8

§Nasdaq PHLX

Sources: FactSet; Dow Jones Market Data

Late Trading

Most-active and biggest movers among NYSE, NYSE Arca, NYSE Amer. and Nasdaq issues from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. ET as reported by electronic trading services, securities dealers and regional exchanges. Minimum share price of $2 and minimum after-hours volume of 50,000 shares.

Most-active issues in late trading

Company	Symbol	Volume (000)	After Hours Last	Net chg	% chg	High	Low
Bank of America	BAC	6,804.7	24.19	0.05	**0.21**	24.20	24.09
Spectrum Pharmaceuticals	SPPI	6,086.7	5.57	2.33	**71.91**	6.45	3.24
Intel	INTC	3,688.2	49.47	-0.10	**-0.20**	49.61	49.32
Alibaba Group Holding ADR	BABA	3,617.8	251.18	0.32	**0.13**	251.70	250.26
General Electric	GE	3,475.6	6.73	0.02	**0.30**	6.73	6.67
SPDR S&P 500	SPY	3,396.4	323.68	0.46	**0.14**	323.77	323.08
VanEck Vectors Gold Miner	GDX	2,996.0	44.10	0.26	**0.59**	44.15	43.80
Microsoft	MSFT	2,589.0	204.08	0.23	**0.11**	204.35	203.50

Percentage gainers...

Company	Symbol	Volume (000)	After Hours Last	Net chg	% chg	High	Low
Spectrum Pharmaceuticals	SPPI	6,086.7	5.57	2.33	**71.91**	6.45	3.24
Lumos Pharma	LUMO	111.8	17.57	2.76	**18.64**	23.62	15.18
Amkor Technology	AMKR	257.9	15.48	1.84	**13.49**	15.49	13.64
HealthStream	HSTM	72.5	23.65	2.26	**10.57**	24.49	21.39
Canaan ADR	CAN	56.1	2.66	0.16	**6.40**	2.66	2.46

...And losers

Company	Symbol	Volume (000)	After Hours Last	Net chg	% chg	High	Low
CorMedix	CRMD	92.6	5.25	-0.75	**-12.50**	6.00	4.99
MediciNova	MNOV	635.0	9.95	-1.05	**-9.55**	11.35	9.72
Arbutus Biopharma	ABUS	323.4	4.27	-0.20	**-4.37**	4.50	4.25
NXP Semiconductors	NXPI	320.6	115.60	-4.64	**-3.86**	124.28	115.48
Select Medical Holdings	SEM	53.6	16.18	-0.49	**-2.94**	16.67	16.18

Trading Diary

Volume, Advancers, Decliners

	NYSE	NYSE Amer.
Total volume*	789,805,537	33,166,040
Adv. volume*	448,530,711	19,205,658
Decl. volume*	332,493,281	13,725,789
Issues traded	3,074	265
Advances	1,796	156
Declines	1,211	101
Unchanged	67	8
New highs	112	17
New lows	8	...
Closing Arms†	1.29	1.05
Block trades*	5,188	297

	Nasdaq	NYSE Arca
Total volume*	4,202,015,491	234,751,869
Adv. volume*	2,670,302,854	169,859,427
Decl. volume*	1,441,611,949	63,691,565
Issues traded	3,441	1,413
Advances	2,006	1,079
Declines	1,361	310
Unchanged	74	24
New highs	82	60
New lows	28	14
Closing Arms†	0.80	1.45
Block trades*	26,881	1,217

* Primary market NYSE, NYSE American NYSE Arca only. †(TRIN) A comparison of the number of advancing and declining issues with the volume of shares rising and falling. An Arms of less than 1 indicates buying demand; above 1 indicates selling pressure.

International Stock Indexes

Region/Country	Index	Close	Latest Net chg	Latest % chg	YTD % chg
World	**The Global Dow**	**2975.59**	19.93	0.67	-8.5
	DJ Global Index	**421.30**	3.41	0.82	-2.9
	DJ Global ex U.S.	**245.85**	1.95	0.80	-6.7
Americas	**DJ Americas**	**755.55**	6.67	0.89	-0.7
Brazil	**Sao Paulo Bovespa**	**104477.08**	2095.50	2.05	-9.7
Canada	**S&P/TSX Comp**	**16161.33**	164.27	1.03	-5.3
Mexico	**S&P/BMV IPC**	**37742.14**	384.68	1.03	-13.3
Chile	**Santiago IPSA**	**2802.10**	32.95	1.19	-16.0
EMEA	**Stoxx Europe 600**	**366.15**	-1.14	-0.31	-11.9
Eurozone	**Euro Stoxx**	**360.76**	-0.92	-0.25	-10.7
Belgium	**Bel-20**	**3407.46**	-27.97	-0.81	-13.9
Denmark	**OMX Copenhagen 20**	**1310.84**	6.57	0.50	15.4
France	**CAC 40**	**4939.62**	-16.81	-0.34	-17.4
Germany	**DAX**	**12838.66**	0.60	0.005	-3.1
Israel	**Tel Aviv**	**1376.43**	2.30	0.17	-18.2
Italy	**FTSE MIB**	**20019.96**	-55.31	-0.28	-14.8
Netherlands	**AEX**	**564.37**	0.42	0.07	-6.7
Russia	**RTS Index**	**1266.16**	10.18	0.81	-18.3
South Africa	**FTSE/JSE All-Share**	**56326.20**	680.55	1.22	-1.3
Spain	**IBEX 35**	**7170.60**	-124.10	-1.70	-24.9
Sweden	**OMX Stockholm**	**688.45**	3.30	0.48	1.1
Switzerland	**Swiss Market**	**10272.34**	58.13	0.57	-3.2
Turkey	**BIST 100**	**1195.67**	3.66	0.31	4.5
U.K.	**FTSE 100**	**6104.88**	-18.94	-0.31	-19.1
U.K.	**FTSE 250**	**17157.94**	-106.89	-0.62	-21.6
Asia-Pacific					
Australia	**S&P/ASX 200**	**6044.20**	20.20	0.34	-9.6
China	**Shanghai Composite**	**3205.23**	8.46	0.26	5.1
Hong Kong	**Hang Seng**	**24603.26**	-102.07	-0.41	-12.7
India	**S&P BSE Sensex**	**37934.73**	-194.17	-0.51	-8.0
Japan	**Nikkei Stock Avg**	**22715.85**	-35.76	-0.16	-4.0
Singapore	**Straits Times**	**2575.79**	-3.72	-0.14	-20.1
South Korea	**Kospi**	**2217.86**	17.42	0.79	0.9
Taiwan	**TAIEX**	**12588.30**	284.26	2.31	4.9
Thailand	**SET**	**1340.92**	...	Closed	-15.1

Sources: FactSet; Dow Jones Market Data

Percentage Gainers...

Company	Symbol	Latest Session Close	Net chg	% chg	52-Week High	Low	% chg
Wilhelmina International	WHLM	7.80	4.07	**108.84**	12.92	2.35	**35.7**
MediciNova	MNOV	11.00	5.36	**95.04**	13.25	2.79	**16.4**
Amira Nature Foods	RYCE	9.25	3.15	**51.71**	24.60	3.64	**-28.4**
Sogou ADR	SOGO	8.51	2.76	**48.00**	8.67	2.95	**120.5**
Sohu.com ADR	SOHU	15.55	4.44	**39.96**	15.82	5.41	**22.5**
Fulgent Genetics	FLGT	26.46	6.95	**35.62**	26.63	6.35	**294.3**
Origin Agritech	SEED	13.04	2.93	**28.98**	13.75	2.76	**131.6**
vTv Therapeutics Cl A	VTVT	2.98	0.65	**27.90**	4.23	1.23	**115.9**
Capricor Therapeutics	CAPR	9.81	2.09	**27.07**	11.08	0.88	**107.4**
TCR2 Therapeutics	TCRR	16.39	3.29	**25.11**	21.06	5.84	**8.4**
Eastman Kodak	KODK	2.62	0.52	**24.76**	4.78	1.50	**10.1**
Genocea Biosciences	GNCA	5.53	1.05	**23.44**	5.75	1.10	**54.5**
Koppers Holdings	KOP	25.07	4.56	**22.23**	44.75	8.25	**-6.9**
Trans World Entertainment	TWMC	7.40	1.20	**19.35**	9.72	1.68	**26.5**
Riot Blockchain	RIOT	2.64	0.42	**18.92**	3.31	0.51	**36.1**

Percentage Losers

Company	Symbol	Latest Session Close	Net chg	% chg	52-Week High	Low	% chg
WiMi Hologram Cloud ADR	WIMI	7.29	-3.92	**-34.97**	29.50	3.20	**...**
Sequential Brands Group	SQBG	5.20	-1.72	**-24.90**	24.80	4.11	**-69.9**
WISeKey Intl Hldg ADR	WKEY	7.60	-1.90	**-20.00**	22.27	3.90	**-38.5**
RigNet	RNET	2.71	-0.65	**-19.35**	9.60	0.77	**-67.7**
Global Eagle Ent	ENT	2.61	-0.62	**-19.20**	24.00	1.52	**-85.2**
Lion Group Holding ADR	LGHL	3.73	-0.88	**-19.09**	8.93	1.75	**...**
China Finance Online ADR	JRJC	9.96	-2.11	**-17.48**	31.40	3.65	**17.2**
iBio	IBIO	4.66	-0.84	**-15.27**	7.45	0.05	**575.4**
BioHiTech Global	BHTG	1.75	-0.31	**-15.05**	4.40	1.01	**-26.2**
Skillful Craftsman Educ	EDTK	3.81	-0.65	**-14.57**	6.75	3.81	**...**
KLX Energy Services Hldgs	KLXE	2.00	-0.34	**-14.53**	16.89	0.51	**-87.0**
Sky Solar Holdings ADR	SKYS	5.01	-0.84	**-14.36**	5.95	1.00	**245.5**
ProShrsUltraShortSilver	ZSL	10.59	-1.73	**-14.01**	56.62	10.57	**-67.8**
Ambow Education ADR	AMBO	2.44	-0.37	**-13.17**	3.64	1.10	**-19.7**
Altimmune	ALT	22.43	-3.20	**-12.49**	35.10	1.51	**854.5**

Most Active Stocks

Company	Symbol	Volume (000)	% chg from 65-day avg	Latest Session Close	% chg	52-Week High	Low
Ocugen	OCGN	**391,002**	2135.7	0.63	**66.62**	17.40	0.17
Advanced Micro Devices	AMD	**107,544**	78.9	68.97	**-0.62**	71.63	27.43
Intel	INTC	**106,247**	313.9	49.57	**-2.02**	69.29	43.63
Socket Mobile	SCKT	**102,414**	122140.3	2.22	**52.04**	4.15	0.76
iShares Silver Trust	SLV	**93,558**	192.0	22.83	**7.64**	22.85	10.86
MediciNova	MNOV	**82,159**	63597.8	11.00	**95.04**	13.25	2.79
ProSh UltraPro Shrt QQQ	SQQQ	**80,958**	2.1	6.35	**-5.51**	39.29	5.78
Marathon Patent Group	MARA	**71,599**	1176.9	1.42	**36.54**	2.27	0.35
General Electric	GE	**70,411**	-33.5	6.71	**-2.19**	13.26	5.48
American Airlines Group	AAL	**68,993**	-29.4	11.39	**0.00**	31.67	8.25

* Volumes of 100,000 shares or more are rounded to the nearest thousand

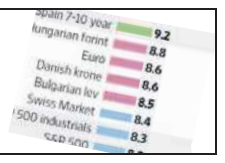
Volume Movers

Ranked by change from 65-day average*

Company	Symbol	Volume (000)	% chg from 65-day avg	Latest Session Close	% chg	52-Week High	Low
MediciNova	MNOV	82,159	**63598**	11.00	**95.04**	13.25	2.79
dMY Technology Group Cl A	DMYT	5,706	**13419**	11.85	**4.87**	12.49	9.51
Amira Nature Foods	RYCE	999	**4457**	9.25	**51.71**	24.60	3.64
Sogou ADR	SOGO	46,508	**3038**	8.51	**48.00**	8.67	2.95
TCR2 Therapeutics	TCRR	4,031	**2989**	16.39	**25.11**	21.06	5.84
Amplitude Hlthcr Cl A	AMHC	222	**2660**	10.13	**0.30**	10.25	9.45
VanEck Vectors Real Asset	RAAX	193	**2583**	20.84	**1.47**	26.13	16.86
Otelco Cl A	OTEL	207	**1735**	11.39	**-7.10**	15.13	2.93
ProShrsUltraShortSilver	ZSL	2,937	**1714**	10.59	**-14.01**	56.62	10.57
iPath B Bloom Livestock	COW	625	**1485**	31.25	**0.14**	49.32	26.40

* Common stocks priced at $2 a share or more with an average volume over 65 trading days of at least 5,000 shares †Has traded fewer than 65 days

Track the Markets
Compare the performance of selected global stock indexes, bond ETFs, currencies and commodities at **WSJ.com/TrackTheMarkets**

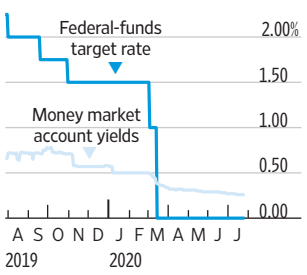


CREDIT MARKETS

Consumer Rates and Returns to Investor

U.S. consumer rates

A consumer rate against its benchmark over the past year



Selected rates

Money Market/Savings Accts

Bankrate.com avg†:	**0.26%**
Popular Direct	**1.01%**
Miami Lakes, FL	800-274-5696
Synchrony Bank	**1.05%**
Draper, UT	800-677-0718
Marcus by Goldman Sachs	**1.05%**
New York, NY	855-730-7283
Vio Bank	**1.11%**
Oklahoma City, OK	888-999-9170
ableBanking, a division of Northeast Bank	**1.05%**
Lewiston, ME	877-505-1933

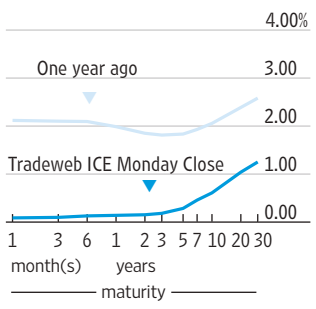
Interest rate	Last	Week ago	52-Week Range (%) Low	High	3-yr chg (pct pts)
Federal-funds rate target	0.00-0.25	0.00-0.25	0.00	2.50	**-1.00**
Prime rate*	**3.25**	3.25	3.25	5.50	**-1.00**
Libor, 3-month	**0.27**	0.26	0.24	2.29	**-1.04**
Money market, annual yield	**0.26**	0.26	0.26	0.78	**-0.06**
Five-year CD, annual yield	**0.70**	0.70	0.69	1.97	**-0.74**
30-year mortgage, fixed†	**3.16**	3.16	3.14	4.22	**-0.77**
15-year mortgage, fixed†	**2.74**	2.73	2.71	3.57	**-0.38**
Jumbo mortgages, $484,350-plus†	**3.21**	3.21	3.18	4.71	**-1.10**
Five-year adj mortgage (ARM)†	**3.20**	3.07	3.06	4.78	**-0.10**
New-car loan, 48-month	**4.26**	4.26	4.17	4.67	**1.23**

Bankrate.com rates based on survey of over 4,800 online banks. *Base rate posted by 70% of the nation's largest banks. † Excludes closing costs.

Sources: FactSet; Dow Jones Market Data; Bankrate.com

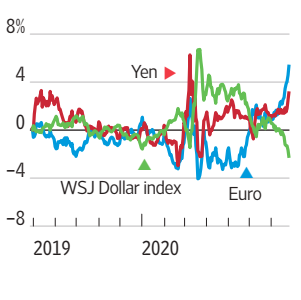
Treasury yield curve

Yield to maturity of current bills, notes and bonds



Forex Race

Yen, euro vs. dollar; dollar vs. major U.S. trading partners



Sources: Tradeweb ICE U.S. Treasury Close; Tullett Prebon; Dow Jones Market Data

Corporate Borrowing Rates and Yields

Bond total return index	Close	Yield (%) Last	Week ago	52-Week High	Low	Total Return (%) 52-wk	3-yr
U.S. Treasury, Barclays	2494.490	**0.470**	0.480	2.010	0.460	**11.67**	5.81
U.S. Treasury Long, Barclays	5021.490	**1.160**	1.220	2.520	0.980	**30.63**	13.61
Aggregate, Barclays	2288.070	**1.150**	1.170	2.530	1.130	**9.98**	5.61
Fixed-Rate MBS, Barclays	2221.940	**1.290**	1.290	2.700	0.930	**5.29**	3.83
High Yield 100, ICE BofA	3122.617	**4.516**	4.813	10.740	4.506	**1.025**	3.221
Muni Master, ICE BofA	588.461	**0.966**	1.020	3.441	0.959	**5.398**	4.285
EMBI Global, J.P. Morgan	892.172	**4.802**	4.918	7.480	4.523	**3.463**	4.134

Sources: J.P. Morgan; S&P Dow Jones Indices; Bloomberg Barclays; ICE Data Services

CURRENCIES & COMMODITIES

Currencies

U.S.-dollar foreign-exchange rates in late New York trading

Country/currency	Mon in US$	Mon per US$	US$ vs. YTD chg (%)
Americas			
Argentina peso	.0139	72.0095	**20.2**
Brazil real	.1941	5.1522	**28.2**
Canada dollar	.7487	1.3357	**2.8**
Chile peso	.001302	768.00	**3.9**
Colombia peso	.000272	3674.17	**12.0**
Ecuador US dollar	1	1	**unch**
Mexico peso	.0456	21.9248	**15.8**
Uruguay peso	.02350	42.5450	**14.6**
Asia-Pacific			
Australian dollar	.7151	1.3984	**-1.9**
China yuan	.1429	6.9964	**0.5**
Hong Kong dollar	.1290	7.7516	**-0.5**
India rupee	.01337	74.801	**4.8**
Indonesia rupiah	.0000689	14520	**4.6**
Japan yen	.009490	105.38	**-3.0**
Kazakhstan tenge	.002411	414.78	**8.6**
Macau pataca	.1252	7.9880	**-0.4**
Malaysia ringgit	.2352	4.2525	**4.0**
New Zealand dollar	.6685	1.4959	**0.7**
Pakistan rupee	.00599	166.867	**7.7**
Philippines peso	.0203	49.154	**-3.1**
Singapore dollar	.7253	1.3787	**2.4**
South Korea won	.0008361	1196.07	**3.5**
Sri Lanka rupee	.0053824	185.79	**2.5**
Taiwan dollar	.03411	29.316	**-2.0**
Thailand baht	.03178	31.470	**5.7**
Vietnam dong	.00004314	23182	**0.04**
Europe			
Czech Rep. koruna	.04490	22.273	**-1.8**
Denmark krone	.1579	6.3333	**-4.9**
Euro area euro	1.1753	.8509	**-4.6**
Hungary forint	.003396	294.49	**-0.3**
Iceland krona	.007419	134.79	**11.3**
Norway krone	.1100	9.0938	**3.6**
Poland zloty	.2676	3.7363	**-1.5**
Russia ruble	.01397	71.602	**15.4**
Sweden krona	.1144	8.7378	**-6.7**
Switzerland franc	1.0871	.9199	**-4.9**
Turkey lira	.1457	6.8625	**15.4**
Ukraine hryvnia	.0360	27.7500	**17.2**
UK pound	1.2880	.7764	**3.0**
Middle East/Africa			
Bahrain dinar	2.6546	.3767	**-0.1**
Egypt pound	.0626	15.9857	**-0.4**
Israel shekel	.2928	3.4149	**-1.1**
Kuwait dinar	3.2673	.3061	**1.0**
Oman sul rial	2.5974	.3850	**...**
Qatar rial	.2746	3.642	**-0.05**
Saudi Arabia riyal	.2666	3.7504	**-0.02**
South Africa rand	.0609	16.4195	**17.3**

	Close	Net Chg	% Chg	YTD % Chg
WSJ Dollar Index	88.80	-0.57	-0.64	**-0.85**

Sources: Tullett Prebon, Dow Jones Market Data

Commodities

	Close	Monday Net chg	% Chg	52-Week High	Low	% Chg	YTD % chg
DJ Commodity	**592.49**	1.86	**0.32**	647.86	433.70	**-3.37**	-7.76
TR/CC CRB Index	**143.82**	0.78	**0.54**	187.39	106.29	**-19.11**	-22.59
Crude oil, $ per barrel	**41.60**	0.31	**0.75**	63.27	-37.63	**-26.85**	-31.87
Natural gas, $/MMBtu	**1.734**	-0.074	**-4.09**	2.862	1.482	**-19.01**	-20.79
Gold, $ per troy oz.	**1931.00**	33.70	**1.78**	1931.00	1419.60	**36.02**	27.08

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COMMODITIES

wsj.com/market-data/commodities

Futures Contracts

Metal & Petroleum Futures

	Open	Contract High	hi lo	Low	Settle	Chg	Open interest
Copper-High (CMX)-25,000 lbs.; $ per lb.							
July	2.8845	2.9000		2.8790	**2.8880**	0.0060	977
Sept	2.8925	2.9200		2.8820	**2.8975**	0.0050	118,279
Gold (CMX)-100 troy oz.; $ per troy oz.							
July	1901.70	1938.00	▲	1901.50	**1931.00**	33.70	524
Aug	1901.20	1941.90	▲	1899.00	**1931.00**	33.50	190,367
Oct	1913.10	1954.60	▲	1912.30	**1941.40**	31.30	51,834
Dec	1929.00	1971.30	▲	1926.80	**1955.40**	30.20	308,288
Feb'21	1940.40	1980.40	▲	1938.00	**1966.10**	30.30	29,052
April	1949.50	1987.80	▲	1949.50	**1975.20**	30.40	7,114
Palladium (NYM) - 50 troy oz.; $ per troy oz.							
July			▲		**2348.20**	75.60	2
Sept	2290.70	2418.80		2288.00	**2369.70**	75.60	8,586
Dec	2302.80	2409.60		2292.20	**2368.50**	83.40	1,440
March'21	2305.30	2395.00		2305.30	**2362.50**	90.70	34
June					**2357.30**	93.90	1
Platinum (NYM)-50 troy oz.; $ per troy oz.							
July	951.70	965.60		951.70	**958.60**	10.70	271
Oct	953.90	986.90		953.90	**966.60**	10.60	49,203
Silver (CMX)-5,000 troy oz.; $ per troy oz.							
July	24.325	24.515		24.195	**24.476**	1.668	1,031
Sept	22.970	24.820	▲	22.940	**24.501**	1.651	137,818
Crude Oil, Light Sweet (NYM)-1,000 bbls.; $ per bbl.							
Sept	41.26	41.82		40.48	**41.60**	0.31	453,198
Oct	41.45	41.99		40.69	**41.80**	0.35	199,708
Nov	41.63	42.17		40.90	**42.00**	0.36	113,301
Dec	41.82	42.33		41.10	**42.18**	0.36	240,402
June'21	42.85	43.28		42.18	**43.21**	0.40	146,632
Dec	43.54	43.95		42.92	**43.89**	0.39	161,328
NY Harbor ULSD (NYM)-42,000 gal.; $ per gal.							
Aug	1.2563	1.2630		1.2324	**1.2541**	-.0022	21,493
Sept	1.2627	1.2705		1.2408	**1.2622**	-.0016	85,248
Gasoline-NY RBOB (NYM)-42,000 gal.; $ per gal.							
Aug	1.2848	1.2880		1.2446	**1.2747**	-.0101	32,250
Sept	1.2554	1.2591		1.2160	**1.2447**	-.0113	111,029
Natural Gas (NYM)-10,000 MMBtu.; $ per MMBtu.							
Aug	1.796	1.800		1.714	**1.734**	-.074	17,709
Sept	1.856	1.860		1.767	**1.786**	-.081	350,573
Oct	1.987	1.996		1.907	**1.932**	-.062	146,634
Nov	2.405	2.427		2.360	**2.385**	-.025	98,082
Dec	2.758	2.795		2.737	**2.763**	-.010	87,463
Jan'21	2.884	2.919		2.865	**2.888**	-.010	129,117

Agriculture Futures

	Open	Contract High	hi lo	Low	Settle	Chg	Open interest
Corn (CBT)-5,000 bu.; cents per bu.							
Sept	325.25	327.50		323.25	**325.00**	-1.25	544,625
Dec	333.50	336.50		332.50	**334.50**	-.50	638,357
Oats (CBT)-5,000 bu.; cents per bu.							
Sept	286.00	288.00		284.25	**286.75**	1.25	790
Dec	276.50	276.75		273.00	**274.50**	-1.75	3,557
Soybeans (CBT)-5,000 bu.; cents per bu.							
Aug	904.00	909.25		901.50	**906.50**	1.75	45,628
Nov	897.50	903.75		895.00	**899.75**	.50	352,280
Soybean Meal (CBT)-100 tons; $ per ton.							
Aug	290.80	294.80		289.50	**292.50**	1.70	30,008
Dec	298.60	303.50		297.00	**301.50**	2.90	155,975
Soybean Oil (CBT)-60,000 lbs.; cents per lb.							
Aug	29.69	29.95		29.36	**29.60**	-.20	30,091
Dec	30.26	30.53		29.91	**30.14**	-.23	169,181
Rough Rice (CBT)-2,000 cwt.; $ per cwt.							
Sept	11.84	11.86		11.61	**11.64**	-.16	8,064
Nov	11.82	11.83		11.61	**11.63**	-.16	2,062
Wheat (CBT)-5,000 bu.; cents per bu.							
Sept	538.75	539.00		526.25	**527.75**	-11.75	186,372
Dec	544.25	544.50		533.50	**534.75**	-10.50	103,099
Wheat (KC)-5,000 bu.; cents per bu.							
Sept	448.50	449.00		438.25	**439.50**	-10.00	154,578
Dec	460.00	460.00		449.25	**450.50**	-10.00	72,624
Cattle-Feeder (CME)-50,000 lbs.; cents per lb.							
Aug	143.700	143.850		139.075	**139.350**	-2.700	9,095
Sept	144.175	144.800		139.275	**139.625**	-3.125	12,269
Cattle-Live (CME)-40,000 lbs.; cents per lb.							
Aug	102.500	102.675		100.350	**100.425**	-.900	42,664
Oct	106.300	106.600		103.725	**103.825**	-1.275	118,736
Hogs-Lean (CME)-40,000 lbs.; cents per lb.							
Aug	54.250	54.925		53.675	**54.550**	.550	35,465
Oct	50.400	51.200		49.625	**50.750**	.600	96,305
Lumber (CME)-110,000 bd. ft., $ per 1,000 bd. ft.							
Sept	555.10	570.40	▲	555.10	**567.90**	26.50	2,584
Nov	492.00	505.70		492.00	**503.70**	12.90	905
Milk (CME)-200,000 lbs., cents per lb.							
July	24.39	24.42		24.39	**24.41**	...	6,982
Aug	21.81	22.22		21.21	**22.11**	.36	6,234
Cocoa (ICE-US)-10 metric tons; $ per ton.							
Sept	2,229	2,301		2,228	**2,286**	62	86,397
Dec	2,223	2,288		2,223	**2,279**	57	66,187
Coffee (ICE-US)-37,500 lbs.; cents per lb.							
Sept	107.90	110.75		107.40	**110.40**	2.00	92,206
Dec	110.70	113.50		110.30	**113.30**	2.00	70,319
Sugar-World (ICE-US)-112,000 lbs.; cents per lb.							
Oct	11.51	12.19		11.51	**12.12**	.63	381,217
March'21	12.20	12.79		12.20	**12.72**	.54	232,118
Sugar-Domestic (ICE-US)-112,000 lbs.; cents per lb.							
Sept	27.10	27.10		27.10	**27.00**	-.05	1,550
Nov	27.25	27.25		27.00	**27.00**	...	2,628
Cotton (ICE-US)-50,000 lbs.; cents per lb.							
Oct	59.51	61.46		59.05	**60.69**	.73	162
Dec	59.80	61.95		59.75	**61.16**	1.06	117,124
Orange Juice (ICE-US)-15,000 lbs.; cents per lb.							
Sept	124.65	125.70		121.30	**121.70**	-2.80	7,338
Nov	124.50	124.50		122.70	**123.30**	-2.30	1,681

Interest Rate Futures

	Open	Contract High	hi lo	Low	Settle	Chg	Open interest
Ultra Treasury Bonds (CBT) - $100,000; pts 32nds of 100%							
Sept	225-300	227-050		224-210	**225-060**	-18.0	1,041,791
Treasury Bonds (CBT)-$100,000; pts 32nds of 100%							
Sept	181-000	181-210		180-130	**180-210**	-14.0	1,050,137
Dec	179-160	180-000		178-250	**179-010**	-14.0	292
Treasury Notes (CBT)-$100,000; pts 32nds of 100%							
Sept	139-180	139-240		139-130	**139-150**	-3.5	3,458,956
Dec	139-160	139-215		139-105	**139-125**	-3.5	7,410
5 Yr. Treasury Notes (CBT)-$100,000; pts 32nds of 100%							
Sept	125-252	125-280		125-235	**125-237**	-2.0	3,449,212
Dec	125-310	126-000		125-272	**125-275**	-2.2	17,124
2 Yr. Treasury Notes (CBT)-$200,000; pts 32nds of 100%							
Sept	110-134	110-139		110-129	**110-130**	-.3	2,100,193
30 Day Federal Funds (CBT)-$5,000,000; 100 - daily avg.							
July	99.9075	99.9100		99.9075	**99.9100**	.0025	199,096
Oct	99.9450	99.9450		99.9400	**99.9450**	.0000	240,678
10 Yr. Del. Int. Rate Swaps (CBT)-$100,000; pts 32nds of 100%							
Sept	101-200	101-240		101-110	**101-120**	-7.5	70,892
Eurodollar (CME)-$1,000,000; pts of 100%							
Aug	99.7600	99.7650	▲	99.7525	**99.7550**	-.0025	202,510
Sept	99.7650	99.7700		99.7600	**99.7600**	...	1,530,718
Dec	99.7150	99.7200		99.7050	**99.7100**	...	1,054,599
March'21	99.8000	99.8100		99.7900	**99.7950**	-.0050	936,350

Currency Futures

	Open	Contract High	hi lo	Low	Settle	Chg	Open interest
Japanese Yen (CME)-¥12,500,000; $ per 100¥							
Aug	.9451	.9515	▲	.9432	**.9492**	.0055	2,297
Sept	.9437	.9519		.9432	**.9495**	.0056	159,503
Canadian Dollar (CME)-CAD 100,000; $ per CAD							
Aug	.7479	.7489		.7447	**.7485**	.0034	13,988
Sept	.7456	.7490		.7447	**.7486**	.0035	122,462
British Pound (CME)-£62,500; $ per £							
Aug	1.2809	1.2904	▲	1.2788	**1.2874**	.0082	376
Sept	1.2802	1.2906		1.2788	**1.2876**	.0082	170,689
Swiss Franc (CME)-CHF 125,000; $ per CHF							
Sept	1.0871	1.0924		1.0850	**1.0881**	.0023	53,462
Dec	1.0911	1.0950		1.0881	**1.0909**	.0023	126
Australian Dollar (CME)-AUD 100,000; $ per AUD							
Aug	.7090	.7151		.7089	**.7143**	.0045	342
Sept	.7098	.7151		.7089	**.7143**	.0045	112,076
Mexican Peso (CME)-MXN 500,000; $ per MXN							
Aug					**.04530**	.00053	82
Sept	.04459	.04532		.04450	**.04513**	.00052	131,323
Euro (CME)-€125,000; $ per €							
Aug	1.1651	1.1786	▲	1.1649	**1.1756**	.0114	2,076
Sept	1.1659	1.1794	▲	1.1655	**1.1764**	.0114	650,997

Index Futures

	Open	Contract High	hi lo	Low	Settle	Chg	Open interest
Mini DJ Industrial Average (CBT)-$5 x index							
Sept	26275	26523		26232	**26484**	162	79,313
Dec	26164	26390		26118	**26368**	168	253
S&P 500 Index (CME)-$250 x index							
Sept	3217.10	3234.20		3192.80	**3232.20**	28.30	19,259
Dec	...	...		...	**3221.40**	28.20	2
Mini S&P 500 (CME)-$50 x index							
Sept	3210.75	3235.00		3192.00	**3232.25**	28.25	2,595,372
Dec	3198.25	3224.75		3181.75	**3221.50**	28.25	48,500
Mini S&P Midcap 400 (CME)-$100 x index							
Sept	1850.10	1865.40		1837.90	**1863.50**	18.00	59,554
Dec	1806.50	1855.40		1839.50	**1863.00**	18.00	3
Mini Nasdaq 100 (CME)-$20 x index							
Sept	10490.00	10684.00		10401.00	**10675.25**	216.25	223,228
Dec	10480.00	10665.75		10387.75	**10658.50**	216.25	1,631
Mini Russell 2000 (CME)-$50 x index							
Sept	1466.40	1483.00		1456.20	**1481.10**	18.70	497,129
Dec	1458.50	1478.50		1454.70	**1478.00**	18.70	550
Mini Russell 1000 (CME)-$50 x index							
Sept	1789.20	1795.10		1780.40	**1794.40**	15.00	8,050
U.S. Dollar Index (ICE-US)-$1,000 x index							
Sept	94.35	94.38	▼	93.42	**93.62**	-.77	33,616
Dec	94.30	94.30	▼	93.45	**93.61**	-.77	864

Source: FactSet

Bonds | wsj.com/market-data/bonds/benchmarks

Tracking Bond Benchmarks

Return on investment and spreads over Treasurys and/or yields paid to investors compared with 52-week highs and lows for different types of bonds

Total return close	YTD total return (%)	Index	Yield (%) Latest	Low	High
Broad Market Bloomberg Barclays					
2288.07	**7.3**	U.S. Aggregate	**1.150**	1.130	2.530
U.S. Corporate Indexes Bloomberg Barclays					
3401.37	**8.1**	U.S. Corporate	**1.910**	1.890	4.580
3053.03	**5.4**	Intermediate	**1.360**	1.340	4.400
5127.92	**12.5**	Long term	**2.810**	2.780	4.930
704.69	**9.2**	Double-A-rated	**1.350**	1.330	3.360
893.71	**6.7**	Triple-B-rated	**2.320**	2.300	5.350
High Yield Bonds ICE BofA					
462.07	**-1.1**	High Yield Constrained	**5.606**	5.151	11.400
391.55	**-10.6**	Triple-C-rated	**13.206**	10.735	19.071
3122.62	**-2.2**	High Yield 100	**4.516**	4.506	10.740
417.22	**-1.0**	Global High Yield Constrained	**5.696**	4.893	11.310
318.51	**-3.1**	Europe High Yield Constrained	**4.205**	2.464	8.183
U.S Agency Bloomberg Barclays					
1863.99	**5.3**	U.S Agency	**0.520**	0.520	2.140
1621.40	**3.8**	10-20 years	**0.390**	0.380	2.050
4327.14	**13.4**	20-plus years	**1.390**	1.170	2.630
2887.32	**5.6**	Yankee	**1.520**	1.520	3.500

Total return close	YTD total return (%)	Index	Yield (%) Latest	Low	High
Mortgage-Backed Bloomberg Barclays					
2221.94	**3.4**	Mortgage-Backed	**1.290**	0.930	2.700
2166.83	**3.2**	Ginnie Mae (GNMA)	**0.690**	0.490	2.660
1312.53	**3.6**	Fannie mae (FNMA)	**1.510**	1.110	2.720
2014.90	**3.5**	Freddie Mac (FHLMC)	**1.490**	1.080	2.720
588.46	**4.0**	Muni Master	**0.966**	0.959	3.441
416.67	**4.4**	7-12 year	**0.910**	0.910	3.447
473.39	**4.5**	12-22 year	**1.408**	1.224	3.690
455.86	**3.4**	22-plus year	**2.187**	1.765	4.123
Global Government J.P. Morgan†					
616.18	**5.7**	Global Government	**0.510**	0.390	1.060
870.30	**8.3**	Canada	**0.680**	0.590	1.740
412.04	**3.0**	EMU§	**0.253**	0.109	0.794
783.38	**3.2**	France	**0.020**	-0.160	0.430
549.15	**2.5**	Germany	**-0.380**	-0.740	-0.050
295.24	**-1.0**	Japan	**0.280**	-0.070	0.320
611.89	**2.7**	Netherlands	**-0.280**	-0.540	0.080
1106.75	**10.1**	U.K.	**0.460**	0.390	1.180
892.17	**1.2**	Emerging Markets **	**4.802**	4.523	7.480

*Constrained indexes limit individual issuer concentrations to 2%; the High Yield 100 are the 100 largest bonds †In local currency §Euro-zone bonds
** EMBI Global Index
Sources: ICE Data Services; Bloomberg Barclays; J.P.Morgan

Global Government Bonds: Mapping Yields

Yields and spreads over or under U.S. Treasurys on benchmark two-year and 10-year government bonds in selected other countries; arrows indicate whether the yield rose(▲) or fell (▼) in the latest session

Coupon (%)	Country/ Maturity, in years	Latest	Yield (%) -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4	Previous	Month ago	Year ago	Spread Under/Over U.S. Treasurys, in basis points Latest	Prev	Year ago
0.125	**U.S.** 2	**0.154** ▲		0.145	0.168	1.854			
0.625	10	**0.605** ▲		0.591	0.647	2.069			
5.750	**Australia** 2	**0.276** ▲		0.272	0.264	0.890	**12.3**	12.6	**-96.3**
2.500	10	**0.898** ▲		0.878	0.878	1.238	**29.3**	28.7	**-83.1**
0.000	**France** 2	**-0.617** ▼		-0.608	-0.608	-0.691	**-77.1**	-75.3	**-254.5**
0.000	10	**-0.187** ▼		-0.140	-0.120	-0.120	**-79.3**	-73.2	**-218.9**
0.000	**Germany** 2	**-0.669** ▼		-0.654	-0.696	-0.752	**-82.2**	-79.9	**-260.6**
0.000	10	**-0.490** ▼		-0.446	-0.481	-0.374	**-109.5**	-103.8	**-244.2**
1.000	**Italy** 2	**-0.066** ▲		-0.073	-0.073	-0.011	**-21.9**	-21.9	**-186.4**
0.950	10	**0.988** ▼		1.009	1.304	1.574	**38.2**	41.7	**-49.5**
0.100	**Japan** 2	**-0.132** ▲		-0.135	-0.140	-0.210	**-28.6**	-28.0	**-206.4**
0.100	10	**0.020** ▲		0.017	0.010	-0.150	**-58.6**	-57.5	**-221.9**
0.400	**Spain** 2	**-0.388** ▲		-0.393	-0.441	-0.499	**-54.1**	-53.8	**-235.2**
1.250	10	**0.345** ▼		0.359	0.455	0.372	**-26.0**	-23.3	**-169.7**
0.500	**U.K.** 2	**-0.098** ▼		-0.083	-0.066	0.540	**-25.2**	-22.8	**-131.4**
4.750	10	**0.112** ▼		0.146	0.175	0.689	**-49.3**	-44.5	**-138.0**

Source: Tullett Prebon

Corporate Debt

Price moves by a company's debt in the credit markets sometimes mirror and sometimes anticipate, moves in that same company's share price.

Investment-grade spreads that tightened the most...

Issuer	Symbol	Coupon (%)	Maturity	Spread*, in basis points Current	One-day change	Last week	Stock Performance Close ($)	% chg
Intel	**INTC**	3.700	July 29, '25	**28**	-19	42	49.57	**-2.02**
AT&T	**T**	3.600	July 15, '25	**60**	-17	79	29.29	**-0.95**
Bank of New York Mellon	**BK**	1.850	Jan. 27, '23	**14**	-15	n.a.	35.75	**-1.32**
Lloyds Bank	**LLOYDS**	2.250	Aug. 14, '22	**43**	-14	n.a.	...	**...**
Bank of Nova Scotia	**BNS**	4.900	June 4, '49	**312**	-11	333	41.48	**0.24**
Dow Chemical	**...**	4.250	Oct. 1, '34	**201**	-10	n.a.	...	**...**

...And spreads that widened the most

Issuer	Symbol	Coupon (%)	Maturity	Spread*, in basis points Current	One-day change	Last week	Stock Performance Close ($)	% chg
Boeing	**BA**	2.800	March 1, '24	**206**	43	n.a.	170.21	**-2.04**
AerCap Ireland Capital DAC	**...**	4.500	Sept. 15, '23	**385**	20	405	...	**...**
AT&T	**T**	3.500	June 1, '41	**177**	19	158	29.29	**-0.95**
American Electric Power	**AEP**	2.300	March 1, '30	**125**	17	118	83.26	**-5.44**
Owl Rock Capital	**OWLRCK**	4.250	Jan. 15, '26	**396**	14	400	...	**...**
Shell International Finance	**RDSALN**	6.375	Dec. 15, '38	**121**	12	116	...	**...**
FirstEnergy	**FE**	1.600	Jan. 15, '26	**170**	10	60	29.28	**-0.68**
Volkswagen Group of America Finance	**...**	3.125	May 12, '23	**80**	10	79	...	**...**

High-yield issues with the biggest price increases...

Issuer	Symbol	Coupon (%)	Maturity	Bond Price as % of face value Current	One-day change	Last week	Stock Performance Close ($)	% chg
Koppers	**KOP**	6.000	Feb. 15, '25	**101.250**	2.25	98.250	25.07	**22.23**
Navient	**NAVI**	6.750	June 25, '25	**104.030**	2.03	98.750	8.34	**3.93**
OCI NV	**OCINV**	5.250	Nov. 1, '24	**101.535**	1.86	98.125	...	**...**
Alcoa Europe Holding	**...**	6.125	May 15, '28	**108.337**	1.84	103.000	...	**...**
Cleveland-Cliffs	**CLF**	5.750	March 1, '25	**85.625**	1.83	85.250	5.89	**4.25**
Mattel	**MAT**	6.200	Oct. 1, '40	**92.250**	1.75	n.a.	10.86	**-4.23**
Occidental Petroleum	**OXY**	6.600	March 15, '46	**97.750**	1.72	92.000	16.70	**-0.24**

...And with the biggest price decreases

Issuer	Symbol	Coupon (%)	Maturity	Bond Price as % of face value Current	One-day change	Last week	Stock Performance Close ($)	% chg
Diamond Sports	**DSPORT**	5.375	Aug. 15, '26	**83.000**	-3.73	76.000	...	**...**
Watco	**WATCOS**	6.500	June 15, '27	**106.250**	-1.72	104.500	...	**...**
Cedar Fair	**FUN**	5.375	April 15, '27	**97.000**	-1.50	97.500	26.37	**-2.73**
Alliant Holdings Intermediate	**ALIANT**	6.750	Oct. 15, '27	**106.250**	-1.18	103.970	...	**...**
Occidental Petroleum	**OXY**	2.700	Feb. 15, '23	**94.250**	-1.16	94.172	16.70	**-0.24**
Tutor Perini	**TPC**	6.875	May 1, '25	**98.345**	-1.16	97.802	12.14	**1.42**

*Estimated spread over 2-year, 3-year, 5-year, 10-year or 30-year hot-run Treasury; 100 basis points=one percentage pt.; change in spread shown is for Z-spread.
Note: Data are for the most active issue of bonds with maturities of two years or more
Sources: MarketAxess Corporate BondTicker; Dow Jones Market Data

Cash Prices | wsj.com/market-data/commodities

Monday, July 27, 2020

These prices reflect buying and selling of a variety of actual or "physical" commodities in the marketplace—separate from the futures price on an exchange, which reflects what the commodity might be worth in future months.

	Monday
Energy	
Coal,C.Aplc.,12500Btu,1.2SO2-r,w	**50.750**
Coal,PwdrRvrBsn,8800Btu,0.8SO2-r,w	**12.000**
Metals	
Gold, per troy oz	
Engelhard industrial	**1938.00**
Handy & Harman base	**1936.65**
Handy & Harman fabricated	**2149.68**
LBMA Gold Price AM	***1893.85**
LBMA Gold Price PM	***1902.10**
Krugerrand,wholesale-e	**n.a.**
Maple Leaf-e	**n.a.**
American Eagle-e	**n.a.**
Mexican peso-e	**n.a.**
Austria crown-e	**n.a.**
Austria phil-e	**n.a.**
Silver, troy oz.	
Engelhard industrial	**24.2500**
Handy & Harman base	**24.2470**
Handy & Harman fabricated	**30.3090**
LBMA spot price	***£17.6400**
(U.S.$ equivalent)	***22.4750**
Coins,wholesale $1,000 face-a	**20926**
Other metals	
LBMA Platinum Price PM	***917.0**
Platinum,Engelhard industrial	**931.0**
Palladium,Engelhard industrial	**2314.0**

	Monday
Aluminum, LME, $ per metric ton	***1654.5**
Copper,Comex spot	**2.8880**
Iron Ore, 62% Fe CFR China-s	**107.8**
Shredded Scrap, US Midwest-s,m	**234**
Steel, HRC USA, FOB Midwest Mill-s	**451**
Fibers and Textiles	
Burlap,10-oz,40-inch NY yd-n,w	**0.6000**
Cotton,11/16 std lw-mdMphs-u	**0.5769**
Cotlook 'A' Index-t	***67.15**
Hides,hvy native steers piece fob-u	**25.000**
Wool,64s,staple,Terr del-u,w	**3.05**
Grains and Feeds	
Barley,top-quality Mnpls-u	**n.a.**
Bran,wheat middlings, KC-u	**80**
Corn,No. 2 yellow,Cent IL-bp,u	**n.a.**
Corn gluten feed,Midwest-u,w	**100.2**
Corn gluten meal,Midwest-u,w	**402.8**
Cottonseed meal-u,w	**245**
Hominy feed,Cent IL-u,w	**98**
Meat-bonemeal,50% pro Mnpls-u,w	**180**
Oats,No.2 milling,Mnpls-u	**3.3175**
Rice, Long Grain Milled, No. 2 AR-u,w	**30.25**
Sorghum,(Milo) No.2 Gulf-u	**8.2500**
SoybeanMeal,Cent IL,rail,ton48%-u	**296.30**
Soybeans,No.1 yllw IL-bp,u	**n.a.**
Wheat,Spring14%-pro Mnpls-u	**5.8800**
Wheat,No.2 soft red,St.Louis-bp,u	**5.5200**

	Monday
Wheat - Hard - KC (USDA) $ per bu-u	**4.5950**
Wheat,No.1soft white,Portld,OR-u	**5.7650**
Food	
Beef,carcass equiv. index	
choice 1-3,600-900 lbs.-u	**170.11**
select 1-3,600-900 lbs.-u	**157.73**
Broilers, National comp wtd. avg.-u,w	**0.6610**
Butter,AA Chicago	**1.7275**
Cheddar cheese,bbl,Chicago	**245.00**
Cheddar cheese,blk,Chicago	**248.00**
Milk,Nonfat dry,Chicago lb.	**99.00**
Coffee,Brazilian,Comp	**1.0264**
Coffee,Colombian, NY	**1.5828**
Eggs,large white,Chicago-u	**0.6150**
Flour,hard winter KC	**13.85**
Hams,17-20 lbs,Mid-US fob-u	**n.a.**
Hogs,Iowa-So. Minnesota-u	**52.41**
Pork bellies,12-14 lb MidUS-u	**0.9913**
Pork loins,13-19 lb MidUS-u	**0.7689**
Steers,Tex.-Okla. Choice-u	**n.a.**
Steers,feeder,Okla. City-u,w	**154.50**
Fats and Oils	
Corn oil,crude wet/dry mill wtd. avg.-u,w	**45.3800**
Grease,choice white,Chicago-h	**0.2100**
Lard,Chicago-u	**n.a.**
Soybean oil,crude;Centl IL-u	**0.2943**
Tallow,bleach;Chicago-h	**0.2625**
Tallow,edible,Chicago-u	**n.a.**

KEY TO CODES: A=ask; B=bid; BP=country elevator bids to producers; C=corrected; E=Manfra,Tordella & Brooks; G=ICE; H=American Commodities Brokerage Co; M=monthly; N=nominal; n.a.=not quoted or not available; R=SNL Energy; S=Platts-TSI; T=Cotlook Limited; U=USDA; W=weekly, Z=not quoted. *Data as of 7/24
Source: Dow Jones Market Data

Borrowing Benchmarks | wsj.com/market-data/bonds/benchmarks

Money Rates

July 27, 2020

Key annual interest rates paid to borrow or lend money in U.S. and international markets. Rates below are a guide to general levels but don't always represent actual transactions.

Inflation

	June index level	Chg From (%) May '20	June '19
U.S. consumer price index			
All items	**257.797**	0.55	0.6
Core	**266.302**	0.19	1.2

International rates

	Latest	Week ago	—52-Week— High	Low
Prime rates				
U.S.	**3.25**	3.25	5.50	3.25
Canada	**2.45**	2.45	3.95	2.45
Japan	**1.475**	1.475	1.475	1.475
Policy Rates				
Euro zone	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00
Switzerland	**0.00**	0.00	0.50	0.00
Britain	**0.10**	0.10	0.75	0.10
Australia	**0.25**	0.25	1.00	0.25
Overnight repurchase				
U.S.	**0.12**	0.14	3.40	-0.07

U.S. government rates

	Latest	Week ago	—52-WEEK— High	Low
Discount	**0.25**	0.25	3.00	0.25
Federal funds				
Effective rate	**0.0900**	0.0900	2.4000	0.0600
High	**0.1100**	0.1100	3.0000	0.1000
Low	**0.0500**	0.0300	2.3300	0.0100
Bid	**0.0800**	0.0800	2.3500	0.0100
Offer	**0.1100**	0.1100	2.5000	0.0500

	Latest	Week ago	—52-WEEK— High	Low
Treasury bill auction				
4 weeks	**0.080**	0.105	2.110	0.000
13 weeks	**0.105**	0.120	2.070	0.000
26 weeks	**0.130**	0.130	2.035	0.080
Secondary market				
Fannie Mae				
30-year mortgage yields				
30 days	**1.949**	1.945	3.388	1.906
60 days	**2.003**	1.996	3.403	1.958

Other short-term rates

	Latest	Week ago	—52-Week— high	low
Call money	**2.00**	2.00	4.25	2.00
Commercial paper (AA financial)				
90 days	**0.13**	0.17	2.53	0.04
Libor				
One month	**0.16625**	0.17563	2.24413	0.16225
Three month	**0.26963**	0.25775	2.28675	0.24450
Six month

BIGGEST 1,000 STOCKS

How to Read the Stock Tables

The following explanations apply to NYSE, NYSE Arca, NYSE American and Nasdaq Stock Market listed securities. Prices are composite quotations that include primary market trades as well as trades reported by Nasdaq BX (formerly Boston), Chicago Stock Exchange, Cboe, NYSE National and Nasdaq ISE.
The list comprises the 1,000 largest companies based on market capitalization.
Underlined quotations are those stocks with large changes in volume compared with the issue's average trading volume.
Boldfaced quotations highlight those issues whose price changed by 5% or more if their previous closing price was $2 or higher.

Footnotes:
i-New 52-week high.
l-New 52-week low.
dd-Indicates loss in the most recent four quarters.
FD-First day of trading.
h-Does not meet continued listing standards
lf-Late filing
q-Temporary exemption from Nasdaq requirements.
t-NYSE bankruptcy
v-Trading halted on primary market.
vj-In bankruptcy or receivership or being reorganized under the Bankruptcy Code, or securities assumed by such companies.

Wall Street Journal stock tables reflect composite regular trading as of 4 p.m. and changes in the closing prices from 4 p.m. the previous day.

Monday, July 27, 2020

Stock	Sym	Close	Net Chg
A B C			
ABB	**ABB**	26.05	0.31
AcadiaPharm	**ACAD**	44.33	0.87
ADT	**ADT**	8.00	0.04
AECOM	**ACM**	36.72	0.13
AES	**AES**	15.25	-0.15
Aflac	**AFL**	36.43	-0.34
AGNC Invt	**AGNC**	13.71	0.19
ANGI Homesvcs	**ANGI**	14.81	0.23
Ansys	**ANSS**	300.17	6.66
ASETech	**ASX**	**4.97**	**0.28**
ASML	**ASML**	381.78	14.10
AT&T	**T**	29.29	-0.28
AbbottLabs	**ABT**	99.99	1.04
AbbVie	**ABBV**	97.16	0.05
Abiomed	**ABMD**	298.61	5.67
AcceleronPharma	**XLRN**	106.18	0.03
Accenture	**ACN**	223.32	1.88
ActivisionBliz	**ATVI**	81.63	1.64
Adobe	**ADBE**	437.10	6.79
AdvanceAuto	**AAP**	146.83	-0.44
AdvMicroDevices	**AMD**	68.97	-0.43
Aegon	**AEG**	3.06	0.02
AgilentTechs	**A**	97.27	2.46
AgnicoEagle	**AEM**	74.12	2.32
AirProducts	**APD**	294.71	3.19
AkamaiTech	**AKAM**	114.65	2.91
Albemarle	**ALB**	85.78	-1.26
Albertsons	**ACI**	**15.24**	**-0.87**
Alcon	**ALC**	61.50	1.73
AlexandriaRlEst	**ARE**	170.36	1.81
AlexionPharm	**ALXN**	**106.85**	**5.36**
Alibaba	**BABA**	250.86	1.86
AlignTech	**ALGN**	308.75	10.61
Alleghany	**Y**	524.81	-12.19
Allegion	**ALLE**	101.39	0.37
AlliantEnergy	**LNT**	52.87	-0.25
Allstate	**ALL**	92.70	-1.66
AllyFinancial	**ALLY**	20.88	-0.30
AlnylamPharm	**ALNY**	157.51	4.41
Alphabet A	**GOOGL**	1529.43	21.22
Alphabet C	**GOOG**	1530.20	18.33
Alteryx	**AYX**	166.71	4.11
AlticeUSA	**ATUS**	24.51	0.42
Altria	**MO**	42.13	0.28
AlumofChina	**ACH**	6.43	0.09
Amazon.com	**AMZN**	3055.21	46.30
Ambev	**ABEV**	2.99	0.12
Amcor	**AMCR**	10.82	0.15
Amdocs	**DOX**	61.26	0.74
Amedisys	**AMED**	220.66	5.92
Amerco	**UHAL**	315.45	-1.02
Ameren	**AEE**	79.01	-0.51
AmericaMovil	**AMX**	13.28	0.13
AmericaMovil A	**AMOV**	13.13	0.12
AmerAirlines	**AAL**	11.39	...
AEP	**AEP**	**83.26**	**-4.79**
AmerExpress	**AXP**	95.79	0.46
AmericanFin	**AFG**	59.99	-1.91
AmHomes4Rent	**AMH**	27.62	0.35
AIG	**AIG**	30.85	-0.46
AmerTowerREIT	**AMT**	260.31	3.98
AmerWaterWorks	**AWK**	144.33	-0.19
AmericoldRealty	**COLD**	39.36	1.03
Ameriprise	**AMP**	156.34	1.08
AmerisourceBrgn	**ABC**	104.00	0.24
Ametek	**AME**	93.05	0.15
Amgen	**AMGN**	253.65	5.67
Amphenol	**APH**	106.17	1.78
AnalogDevices	**ADI**	115.80	3.59
Anaplan	**PLAN**	44.78	0.80
AngloGoldAsh	**AU**	**37.91**	**3.30**
AB InBev	**BUD**	54.08	-0.45
AnnalyCap	**NLY**	7.27	0.12
Anthem	**ANTM**	263.99	-6.50
Aon	**AON**	207.02	-0.15
Apache	**APA**	13.69	-0.51
ApartmtInv	**AIV**	35.76	0.11
ApolloGlbMgmt	**APO**	52.13	0.11
Apple	**AAPL**	379.24	8.78
ApplMaterials	**AMAT**	63.01	2.39
Aptargroup	**ATR**	119.85	1.00
Aptiv	**APTV**	83.55	1.30
Aramark	**ARMK**	22.06	-0.60
ArcelorMittal	**MT**	11.51	0.04
ArchCapital	**ACGL**	30.13	-0.72
ArcherDaniels	**ADM**	42.13	0.04
AresMgmt	**ARES**	39.49	0.45
arGEN-X	**ARGX**	259.67	8.34
AristaNetworks	**ANET**	245.83	9.02
AscendisPharma	**ASND**	139.67	1.65
AspenTech	**AZPN**	97.33	1.09
Assurant	**AIZ**	105.67	-1.12
AstraZeneca	**AZN**	56.58	0.78
Athene	**ATH**	33.02	-0.37
Atlassian	**TEAM**	184.51	0.17
AtmosEnergy	**ATO**	102.57	-0.43
Autodesk	**ADSK**	239.69	6.81
Autohome	**ATHM**	81.28	3.52
Autoliv	**ALV**	70.12	1.63
ADP	**ADP**	145.72	0.29
AutoZone	**AZO**	1170.80	2.21
Avalara	**AVLR**	126.19	2.26
Avalonbay	**AVB**	145.72	-1.13
Avangrid	**AGR**	48.43	-0.54
Avantor	**AVTR**	**19.55**	**1.07**
AveryDennison	**AVY**	115.86	-4.55
AxonEnterprise	**AAXN**	86.44	0.82
BCE	**BCE**	41.94	0.32
BHP Group	**BHP**	54.39	1.78
BHP Group	**BBL**	45.26	1.44
BJ'sWholesale	**BJ**	41.07	1.00
BP	**BP**	23.14	0.21
B2Gold	**BTG**	6.84	0.31
Baidu	**BIDU**	115.86	-3.16
BakerHughes	**BKR**	16.33	-0.04
Ball	**BLL**	74.57	1.41
BancoBilbaoViz	**BBVA**	3.49	-0.07
BancoBradesco	**BBDO**	**4.10**	**0.20**
BancodeChile	**BCH**	19.34	0.31
BancSanBrasil	**BSBR**	5.75	0.15
BcoSantChile	**BSAC**	17.29	0.38
BancoSantander	**SAN**	2.40	...
BanColombia	**CIB**	28.65	0.81
BankofAmerica	**BAC**	24.14	-0.21
BankofMontreal	**BMO**	55.53	0.60
BankNY Mellon	**BK**	35.75	-0.48
BkNovaScotia	**BNS**	41.48	0.10
Barclays	**BCS**	5.69	-0.07
BarrickGold	**GOLD**	**29.91**	**1.47**
BauschHealth	**BHC**	**18.00**	**0.95**
BaxterIntl	**BAX**	89.29	0.03
BectonDicknsn	**BDX**	275.18	3.29
BeiGene	**BGNE**	224.00	-0.44
Berkley	**WRB**	62.87	-1.09
BerkHathwy B	**BRK.B**	192.14	-2.38
BerkHathwy A	**BRK.A**	288107.35	13.99
BerryGlobal	**BERY**	48.46	0.60
BestBuy	**BBY**	97.92	0.93
BeyondMeat	**BYND**	126.72	1.63
Bilibili	**BILI**	41.32	1.22
Bill.com	**BILL**	82.89	0.57
Bio-Techne	**TECH**	276.80	6.73
Bio-RadLab A	**BIO**	530.47	14.72
Biogen	**BIIB**	**286.19**	**13.86**
BioMarinPharm	**BMRN**	124.00	1.05
BioNTech	**BNTX**	86.53	2.36
BlackKnight	**BKI**	74.52	1.35
BlackRock	**BLK**	575.33	4.71
Blackstone	**BX**	55.25	-0.45
Boeing	**BA**	170.21	-3.55
BookingHldgs	**BKNG**	1702.83	1.53
BoozAllen	**BAH**	74.63	0.29
BorgWarner	**BWA**	38.98	0.62
BostonBeer	**SAM**	814.19	-14.15
BostonProps	**BXP**	89.73	-0.94
BostonSci	**BSX**	38.35	-0.25
BrightHorizons	**BFAM**	111.82	0.85
BristolMyers	**BMY**	58.05	0.20
BritishAmTob	**BTI**	34.98	0.38
Broadcom	**AVGO**	312.68	6.89
BroadridgeFinl	**BR**	133.81	2.53
BrookfieldMgt	**BAM**	33.71	0.21
BrookfieldInfr	**BIP**	42.86	0.22
BrookfieldPropREIT	**BPYU**	11.31	0.14
Brown&Brown	**BRO**	45.49	0.09
Brown-Forman A	**BF.A**	62.40	0.51
Brown-Forman B	**BF.B**	68.90	0.90
Bruker	**BRKR**	44.30	1.37
Bunge	**BG**	45.00	0.67
BurlingtonStrs	**BURL**	183.72	-3.20
CBRE Group	**CBRE**	42.33	-0.83
CDW	**CDW**	116.30	1.74
CF Industries	**CF**	31.36	0.78
CGI	**GIB**	65.94	1.31
CH Robinson	**CHRW**	87.70	1.63
CME Group	**CME**	167.50	-1.25
CMS Energy	**CMS**	62.99	-0.54
CNA Fin	**CNA**	33.66	-0.28
CNH Indl	**CNHI**	7.57	0.12
CNOOC	**CEO**	112.42	2.02
CRH	**CRH**	38.84	0.68
CRISPR Therap	**CRSP**	92.12	1.77
CSX	**CSX**	71.59	0.25
CVS Health	**CVS**	62.57	-0.77
CableOne	**CABO**	1804.25	6.71
CabotOil	**COG**	**17.97**	**-1.07**
CadenceDesign	**CDNS**	105.27	2.68
CaesarsEnt	**CZR**	**29.74**	**-4.01**
CamdenProperty	**CPT**	89.25	-0.28
CampbellSoup	**CPB**	49.49	0.09
CIBC	**CM**	69.66	0.10
CanNtlRlwy	**CNI**	96.86	0.36
CanNaturalRes	**CNQ**	18.77	0.63
CanPacRlwy	**CP**	276.87	2.79
Canon	**CAJ**	19.81	0.14
CanopyGrowth	**CGC**	16.96	0.49
CapitalOne	**COF**	65.74	0.68
CardinalHealth	**CAH**	57.48	0.98
Carlisle	**CSL**	121.99	1.15
Carlyle	**CG**	29.15	0.44
CarMax	**KMX**	97.77	0.31
Carnival	**CCL**	**13.75**	**-1.05**
Carnival	**CUK**	**11.30**	**-0.92**
CarrierGlobal	**CARR**	26.25	-0.33
Carvana	**CVNA**	150.83	2.47
CaseysGenStores	**CASY**	164.16	0.49
Catalent	**CTLT**	83.25	1.61
Caterpillar	**CAT**	139.89	2.31
Celanese	**CE**	95.20	2.77
CenovusEnergy	**CVE**	5.07	0.06
Centene	**CNC**	67.27	-0.24
CenterPointEner	**CNP**	19.07	-0.67
CentrailsElBras	**EBR**	7.54	0.27
CenturyLink	**CTL**	9.70	-0.39
CeridianHCM	**CDAY**	79.60	2.26
Cerner	**CERN**	72.45	0.66
CharlesRiverLabs	**CRL**	199.93	7.10
CharterComms	**CHTR**	559.91	-1.81
CheckPoint	**CHKP**	123.98	0.50
Chegg	**CHGG**	74.30	0.88
Chemed	**CHE**	469.74	-2.54
CheniereEnergy	**LNG**	48.67	-0.32
CheniereEnerPtrs	**CQP**	33.65	-0.64
Chevron	**CVX**	91.04	0.91
Chewy	**CHWY**	46.73	0.77
ChinaEastrnAir	**CEA**	18.04	0.12
ChinaLifeIns	**LFC**	11.76	0.04
ChinaMobile	**CHL**	34.23	-0.14
ChinaPetrol	**SNP**	45.06	0.44
ChinaSoAirlines	**ZNH**	23.15	0.14
ChinaTelecom	**CHA**	29.83	0.29
ChinaUnicom	**CHU**	5.53	-0.08
Chipotle	**CMG**	1142.93	12.67
Chubb	**CB**	132.39	-2.52
ChunghwaTel	**CHT**	36.71	-0.01
Church&Dwight	**CHD**	87.17	1.30
Ciena	**CIEN**	58.92	2.20
Cigna	**CI**	175.50	-5.52
CincinnatiFin	**CINF**	82.45	-0.78
Cintas	**CTAS**	298.28	-4.32
CiscoSystems	**CSCO**	47.19	0.79
Citigroup	**C**	51.29	-0.38
CitizensFin	**CFG**	24.86	-0.72
CitrixSystems	**CTXS**	142.00	-0.49
Clarivate	**CCC**	24.04	0.88
Clorox	**CLX**	229.22	2.18
Cloudflare	**NET**	37.36	1.64
Coca-Cola	**KO**	48.48	-0.01
Coca-Cola Euro	**CCEP**	41.64	0.62
Cognex	**CGNX**	66.48	2.26
CognizantTech	**CTSH**	63.43	1.63
ColgatePalm	**CL**	74.65	0.33
Comcast A	**CMCSA**	43.56	0.21
CommerceBcshrs	**CBSH**	56.89	-1.47
SABESP	**SBS**	11.73	0.02
ConagraBrands	**CAG**	36.97	0.36
ConchoRscs	**CXO**	52.68	-0.78
ConocoPhillips	**COP**	39.77	-0.51
ConEd	**ED**	74.76	-0.82
ConstBrands B	**STZ.B**	179.09	-1.70
ConstBrands A	**STZ**	178.89	-0.96
ContinentalRscs	**CLR**	17.40	0.18
Cooper	**COO**	286.38	2.80
Copart	**CPRT**	91.25	1.73
CoreLogic	**CLGX**	68.73	0.56
Corning	**GLW**	30.63	1.34
Corteva	**CTVA**	28.81	0.29
CoStar	**CSGP**	719.17	15.40
Costco	**COST**	327.60	1.82
CoupaSoftware	**COUP**	292.85	0.74
Credicorp	**BAP**	126.42	-0.85
CreditAcceptance	**CACC**	456.70	1.39
CreditSuisse	**CS**	10.63	0.06
Cree	**CREE**	67.94	1.89
CrowdStrike	**CRWD**	103.60	3.57
CrownCastle	**CCI**	168.44	1.74
CrownHoldings	**CCK**	72.42	1.72
Cummins	**CMI**	190.96	2.72
CyrusOne	**CONE**	80.64	1.28
D E F			
DISH Network	**DISH**	33.38	0.02
DTE Energy	**DTE**	114.01	-0.56
Danaher	**DHR**	198.98	3.71
Darden	**DRI**	76.37	-2.27
Datadog	**DDOG**	87.83	2.99
DaVita	**DVA**	88.49	1.16
DeckersOutdoor	**DECK**	211.12	5.34
Deere	**DE**	176.00	0.65
DellTechC	**DELL**	60.96	0.16
DeltaAir	**DAL**	25.50	-0.46
DentsplySirona	**XRAY**	43.45	0.21
DeutscheBank	**DB**	9.55	-0.06
DexCom	**DXCM**	423.43	1.68
Diageo	**DEO**	145.11	1.56
DiamondbkEner	**FANG**	40.05	-0.68
DigitalRealty	**DLR**	151.01	4.02
DiscoverFinSvcs	**DFS**	51.76	0.94
DiscoveryB	**DISCB**	38.53	0.70
DiscoveryA	**DISCA**	20.88	-0.27
DiscoveryC	**DISCK**	18.69	-0.24
Disney	**DIS**	116.31	-1.30
DocuSign	**DOCU**	196.27	5.32
DolbyLab	**DLB**	69.60	1.59
DollarGeneral	**DG**	189.95	-1.75
DollarTree	**DLTR**	95.42	-0.18
DominionEner	**D**	80.22	-0.19
Domino's	**DPZ**	389.61	2.70
Donaldson	**DCI**	48.85	0.53
DouglasEmmett	**DEI**	28.76	0.09
Dover	**DOV**	106.25	0.74
Dow	**DOW**	44.00	1.39
DrReddy'sLab	**RDY**	53.65	-0.86
DraftKings	**DKNG**	**35.12**	**-2.44**
Dropbox	**DBX**	21.55	0.20
DukeEnergy	**DUK**	81.29	-1.50
DukeRealty	**DRE**	37.72	0.46
Dun&Bradstreet	**DNB**	25.29	0.15
Dunkin'	**DNKN**	70.94	1.03
DuPont	**DD**	55.35	0.80
Dynatrace	**DT**	42.40	1.12
ENI	**E**	19.82	0.08
EOG Rscs	**EOG**	48.56	-0.48
EPAM Systems	**EPAM**	280.05	5.95
E*TRADE	**ETFC**	52.98	1.21
EastmanChem	**EMN**	78.42	1.78
Eaton	**ETN**	95.23	1.62
eBay	**EBAY**	57.23	2.11
Ecolab	**ECL**	212.04	1.98
Ecopetrol	**EC**	12.20	0.13
EdisonInt	**EIX**	**53.16**	**-2.86**
EdwardsLife	**EW**	78.69	0.56
ElancoAnimal	**ELAN**	**21.30**	**-2.29**
Elastic	**ESTC**	90.44	1.62
ElbitSystems	**ESLT**	136.50	0.69
ElectronicArts	**EA**	136.16	0.92
EmersonElec	**EMR**	63.41	0.05
Enbridge	**ENB**	31.31	0.03
EncompassHealth	**EHC**	66.78	0.74
EnelAmericas	**ENIA**	7.70	0.02
EnelChile	**ENIC**	3.99	0.03
EnergyTransfer	**ET**	6.38	-0.27
EnphaseEnergy	**ENPH**	62.22	2.57
Entegris	**ENTG**	69.54	1.70
Entergy	**ETR**	101.73	-0.93
EnterpriseProd	**EPD**	18.11	-0.03
Equifax	**EFX**	165.36	-1.80
Equinix	**EQIX**	754.00	16.61
Equinor	**EQNR**	15.49	-0.14
Equitable	**EQH**	20.28	-0.02
EquityLife	**ELS**	65.43	-0.14
EquityResdntl	**EQR**	53.33	-1.01
ErielndemnityA	**ERIE**	210.42	4.17
EssentialUtil	**WTRG**	45.26	-0.44
EssexProp	**ESS**	212.56	-1.56
EsteeLauder	**EL**	192.84	1.09
Etsy	**ETSY**	105.95	4.36
EverestRe	**RE**	220.80	-3.21
Evergy	**EVRG**	63.98	-0.08
EversourceEner	**ES**	88.70	-0.78
ExactSciences	**EXAS**	96.39	1.00
Exelixis	**EXEL**	24.75	0.16
Exelon	**EXC**	37.58	-0.22
Expedia	**EXPE**	84.42	0.70
ExpeditorsIntl	**EXPD**	81.08	0.89
ExtraSpaceSt	**EXR**	95.56	0.16
ExxonMobil	**XOM**	44.07	0.64
F5Networks	**FFIV**	151.24	-1.10
FMC	**FMC**	108.45	1.11
Facebook	**FB**	233.50	2.79
FactSet	**FDS**	349.38	1.44
FairIsaac	**FICO**	425.72	11.39
Farfetch	**FTCH**	22.41	1.04
Fastenal	**FAST**	46.22	0.73
Fastly	**FSLY**	80.11	1.31
FederalRealty	**FRT**	73.63	0.64
FedEx	**FDX**	170.64	5.60
Ferrari	**RACE**	179.93	0.74
FiatChrysler	**FCAU**	10.72	0.21
FidNatlFin	**FNF**	32.87	-0.52
FidNatlInfo	**FIS**	143.44	-0.26
FifthThirdBncp	**FITB**	19.42	-0.12
58.com	**WUBA**	55.18	0.12
FirstAmerFin	**FAF**	52.85	-1.49
FirstRepBank	**FRC**	113.90	-0.92
FirstSolar	**FSLR**	62.26	0.10
FirstEnergy	**FE**	29.28	-0.20
Fiserv	**FISV**	101.15	0.52
FiveBelow	**FIVE**	111.60	1.42
Five9	**FIVN**	114.35	2.91
FleetCorTech	**FLT**	258.48	0.40
FlirSystems	**FLIR**	41.59	0.62
Floor&Decor	**FND**	**71.47**	**3.65**
FomentoEconMex	**FMX**	61.54	1.41
FordMotor	**F**	6.93	0.05
Fortinet	**FTNT**	136.65	3.61
Fortis	**FTS**	39.71	0.57
Fortive	**FTV**	71.90	0.90
FortBrandsHome	**FBHS**	74.26	3.26
FoxA	**FOXA**	25.72	-0.94
FoxB	**FOX**	25.69	-0.80
Franco-Nevada	**FNV**	163.36	4.82
FranklinRscs	**BEN**	21.02	0.42
FreeportMcM	**FCX**	13.56	0.44
FreseniusMed	**FMS**	45.42	0.83
G H I			
GCI LibertyA	**GLIBA**	75.61	-0.40
GDS Holdings	**GDS**	80.15	2.00
GFLEnvironmental	**GFL**	21.10	0.56
GSXTechedu	**GSX**	**87.37**	**6.17**
Galapagos	**GLPG**	195.81	2.16
Gallagher	**AJG**	103.53	-0.40
Gaming&Leisure	**GLPI**	34.36	0.69
Garmin	**GRMN**	100.29	3.55
Gartner	**IT**	125.37	0.68
Generac	**GNRC**	138.35	3.10
GeneralDynamics	**GD**	147.98	-2.17
GeneralElec	**GE**	6.71	-0.15
GeneralMills	**GIS**	64.08	-0.15
GeneralMotors	**GM**	25.70	-0.55
Genmab	**GMAB**	35.64	0.54
Genpact	**G**	39.83	0.74
Gentex	**GNTX**	26.92	0.63
GenuineParts	**GPC**	89.43	0.79
GileadSciences	**GILD**	74.54	0.90
GSK	**GSK**	40.88	0.59
GlobalPayments	**GPN**	174.29	1.66
Globant	**GLOB**	170.19	5.50
GlobeLife	**GL**	79.57	-0.80
GoDaddy	**GDDY**	68.55	-0.06
GoHealth	**GOCO**	20.10	0.32
GoldFields	**GFI**	**13.47**	**0.99**
GoldmanSachs	**GS**	203.02	1.55
Graco	**GGG**	54.23	0.89
Grainger	**GWW**	339.79	-1.60
Grifols	**GRFS**	18.85	0.32
Grubhub	**GRUB**	71.00	2.15
GpoAvalAcc	**AVAL**	4.78	0.05
GuardantHealth	**GH**	83.73	2.13
Guidewire	**GWRE**	118.62	1.98
HCA Healthcare	**HCA**	125.33	-0.18
HDFC Bank	**HDB**	48.55	-1.70
HD Supply	**HDS**	35.66	...
HP	**HPQ**	17.81	0.31
HSBC	**HSBC**	22.67	-0.57
Halliburton	**HAL**	14.90	0.19
HartfordFinl	**HIG**	40.84	-0.64
Hasbro	**HAS**	**71.84**	**-5.75**
HealthcareAmer	**HTA**	26.86	0.18
HealthpeakProp	**PEAK**	26.46	0.22
Heico	**HEI**	94.26	-1.19
Heico A	**HEI.A**	74.83	-0.86
HenrySchein	**HSIC**	67.03	...
Herbalife	**HLF**	50.74	0.14
Hershey	**HSY**	146.29	0.61
Hess	**HES**	50.29	-0.17
HewlettPackard	**HPE**	9.75	0.13
Hill-Rom	**HRC**	117.57	1.33
Hilton	**HLT**	77.34	-0.09
Hologic	**HOLX**	62.69	0.94
HomeDepot	**HD**	267.42	2.11
HondaMotor	**HMC**	26.12	0.39
Honeywell	**HON**	150.76	1.33
HorizonTherap	**HZNP**	58.90	0.43
HormelFoods	**HRL**	50.55	0.28
DR Horton	**DHI**	66.57	2.82
HostHotels	**HST**	10.32	-0.18
HowmetAerospace	**HWM**	15.24	-0.31
HuanengPower	**HNP**	17.14	-0.09
Huazhu	**HTHT**	33.71	0.15
Hubbell	**HUBB**	132.95	0.36
HubSpot	**HUBS**	226.94	4.15
Humana	**HUM**	391.02	-1.12
JBHunt	**JBHT**	130.35	-0.44
HuntingtonBcshs	**HBAN**	9.27	-0.33
HuntingIngalls	**HII**	173.20	-3.86
IAA	**IAA**	39.97	-0.29
ICICI Bank	**IBN**	9.85	-0.43
IdexxLab	**IDXX**	366.67	7.44
IHS Markit	**INFO**	79.94	0.38
ING Groep	**ING**	7.37	-0.01
IPG Photonics	**IPGP**	183.07	7.78
IQVIA	**IQV**	162.28	4.40
IcahnEnterprises	**IEP**	49.97	0.49
Icon	**ICLR**	186.51	1.45
IDEX	**IEX**	169.56	1.89
IllinoisToolWks	**ITW**	187.72	2.93
Illumina	**ILMN**	393.04	10.79
Immunomedics	**IMMU**	**43.31**	**2.10**
ImperialOil	**IMO**	16.94	0.24
Incyte	**INCY**	102.09	2.67
Infosys	**INFY**	12.67	0.34
IngersollRand	**IR**	31.82	0.22
Ingredion	**INGR**	88.14	0.79
Inphi	**IPHI**	123.61	1.87
Insulet	**PODD**	192.55	-4.14
Intel	**INTC**	49.57	-1.02
InteractiveBrkrs	**IBKR**	50.06	0.68
ICE	**ICE**	94.54	-1.78
InterContinentl	**IHG**	47.08	-1.14
IBM	**IBM**	126.21	0.42
IntlFlavors	**IFF**	128.79	1.97
IntlPaper	**IP**	36.85	0.53
Interpublic	**IPG**	18.56	0.01
Intuit	**INTU**	296.15	7.46
IntuitiveSurgical	**ISRG**	685.35	10.02
InvitatHomes	**INVH**	28.01	0.48
IonisPharma	**IONS**	60.29	1.34
iQIYI	**IQ**	20.71	0.31
IronMountain	**IRM**	27.75	0.51
ItauUnibanco	**ITUB**	**5.36**	**0.27**
J K L			
JD.com	**JD**	62.78	1.90
Joyy	**YY**	75.70	-0.90
JPMorganChase	**JPM**	96.90	-1.38
JackHenry	**JKHY**	180.70	1.11
JacobsEngg	**J**	84.21	0.27
JamesHardie	**JHX**	21.01	0.85
JazzPharma	**JAZZ**	113.55	0.66
J&J	**JNJ**	147.18	-0.94
JohnsonControls	**JCI**	37.07	0.27
JuniperNetworks	**JNPR**	25.12	0.64
KB Fin	**KB**	29.42	0.39
KKR	**KKR**	35.20	0.51
KLA	**KLAC**	197.07	8.86
KSCitySouthern	**KSU**	156.49	1.79
Kellogg	**K**	69.97	1.29
KeurigDrPepper	**KDP**	30.96	0.62
KeyCorp	**KEY**	12.09	-0.16
KeysightTechs	**KEYS**	98.20	1.35
KilroyRealty	**KRC**	56.77	0.28
KimberlyClark	**KMB**	147.38	0.04
KinderMorgan	**KMI**	14.20	-0.05
KingsoftCloud	**KC**	31.88	0.80
KinrossGold	**KGC**	8.71	0.29
KirklandLakeGold	**KL**	50.63	2.36
Knight-Swift	**KNX**	44.49	-0.62
KoninklijkePhil	**PHG**	53.02	1.29
KoreaElcPwr	**KEP**	7.93	-0.03
KraftHeinz	**KHC**	34.84	0.16
Kroger	**KR**	34.76	0.05
LHC Group	**LHCG**	190.06	2.22
Line	**LN**	52.45	0.78
LKQ	**LKQ**	27.73	-0.23
LPL Financial	**LPLA**	77.48	1.53
L3HarrisTech	**LHX**	167.55	-3.69
LabCpAm	**LH**	201.30	2.56
LamResearch	**LRCX**	358.08	12.36
LamarAdv	**LAMR**	65.20	0.40
LambWeston	**LW**	70.50	2.71
LasVegasSands	**LVS**	43.48	-0.88
Lear	**LEA**	118.97	2.38
Leidos	**LDOS**	90.16	-0.91
Lennar A	**LEN**	73.03	3.24
Lennar B	**LEN.B**	54.64	2.42
LennoxIntl	**LII**	272.00	6.22
LibertyBroadbandA	**LBRDA**	129.44	-1.19
LibertyBroadbandC	**LBRDK**	132.13	-0.64
LibertyGlobal A	**LBTYA**	23.15	0.68
LibertyGlobal C	**LBTYK**	22.79	0.68
LibertyGlobal B	**LBTYB**	23.84	0.20
LibertyFormOne A	**FWONA**	32.97	0.06
LibertyFormOne C	**FWONK**	35.35	0.27
LibertyBraves A	**BATRA**	18.34	-0.75
LibertyBraves C	**BATRK**	18.08	-0.60
LibertySirius A	**LSXMA**	34.77	0.50
LibertySirius C	**LSXMK**	34.85	0.44
EliLilly	**LLY**	160.50	0.96
LincolnElectric	**LECO**	93.74	2

Jumbo Mortgages Lose Low-Rate Edge

In a reversal, banks now offer lower costs for smaller loans as investors shun risk

By Orla McCaffrey

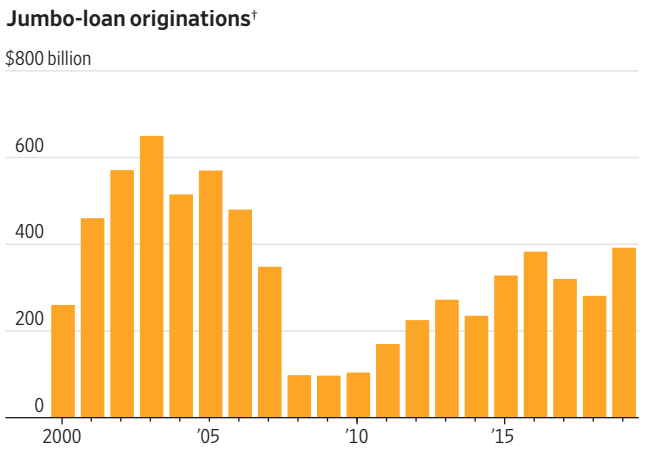
Record-low interest rates are helping home buyers lock in years of savings on future mortgage payments. But those searching for larger homes or in expensive markets aren't reaping the same rewards.

The average rate on a 30-year jumbo mortgage was 3.77% in mid-July, more than 0.4 percentage point above the average rate on smaller, conforming loans, according to Bankrate.com, a personal-finance website. From mid-2015 until this spring, jumbo rates had been consistently lower than or equal to the rates on conforming loans.

The reversal is just one of the ways the coronavirus crisis has wreaked havoc on the mortgage market.

The same force pushing most mortgage rates to record lows—investors piling into safe-haven assets like government bonds—has pushed jumbo loans out of favor.

A jumbo loan is one considered too big to be sold to government-backed mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. In most markets, it must be larger than $510,400 this year, but in the highest-cost areas it must be larger than $765,600. Conforming loans meet the guidelines for government backing. In recent years, banks have favored jumbo mortgages for their relatively low risk level, since jumbo borrowers tend to be wealthier. Banks generally keep jumbo loans on their own books, betting that the borrowers are less likely to default.



†Originations are estimates based on surveys, data and public sources.

Sources: Inside Mortgage Finance

But the Federal Reserve has taken extraordinary steps to intervene in the mortgage market during the coronavirus pandemic, including agreeing in March to buy an essentially unlimited amount of mortgage-backed securities.

"The loans that get made are those that have a ready buyer for them," said Greg McBride, chief financial analyst at Bankrate.com. "Government-backed loans are really the only game in town."

What is more, jumbo loans aren't entitled to forbearance under the Cares Act.

That law, meant to prop up the economy during the coronavirus pandemic, allows homeowners to request up to 12 months of postponed mortgage payments.

If the loan is backed by the government, the mortgage servicer is generally supposed to grant the request. If the loan is a jumbo, the servicer has more freedom to say no.

Still, mortgage companies seem to be saying yes. The share of jumbo loans in forbearance stood at 10.2% in mid-July, higher than the 7.8% rate among all mortgages, according to mortgage-data firm Black Knight Inc.

Some banks might be quick to grant relief on jumbo loans since they are often holding those loans rather than selling them to investors, leaving the banks more exposed if the loans go bad.

AL DRAGO/BLOOMBERG NEWS

These deals are too big to be sold to government-backed Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

Lenders have been raising credit standards for all sorts of loans since the coronavirus hit. They started doing so for would-be jumbo borrowers shortly after the Fed's decision, ensuring that only the upper echelon of potential buyers could access jumbo credit.

Wells Fargo & Co., for example, said in early April that it would refinance jumbo mortgages only for customers who hold at least $250,000 in liquid assets with the bank. The bank removed that requirement in early July.

Rick Dreyer was turned down by several lenders when he went looking for a jumbo loan this summer in northwest Arkansas to buy another investment property.

Mr. Dreyer and his girlfriend previously used one lender to purchase four different properties. But that lender wouldn't take the couple's rental income into consideration because of the risk that tenants might not pay rent, Mr. Dreyer said.

Another lender said the pair would need about $11,000 of additional income a month to qualify for the larger loan.

In the time that he was searching for a jumbo loan, his first-choice home went off the market. The couple decided to forgo the jumbo, and found a property where a 20% down payment would put the mortgage a few thousand dollars below the jumbo threshold.

Jumbos weren't always so hard to come by. Originations peaked at $650 billion a few years before the financial crisis, according to industry-research group Inside Mortgage Finance, when aggressive lenders lent many borrowers more than they could afford. Jumbo originations fell off sharply during the crisis and its aftermath, though they hit a postcrisis high of $392 billion in 2019.

Applications for loans of at least $625,000 filed in May were down about 5% from the same time last year, according to the Mortgage Bankers Association.

Still, there have been recent signs of life in the jumbo market. First-quarter originations reached $80 billion, down about 22% from late 2019 but up 25% from the same time last year, according to Inside Mortgage Finance.

But the recent activity doesn't mean the spread between jumbo and conforming rates will narrow soon, Mr. McBride said. The gap lasted for about five years after the financial crisis.

LARRY W. SMITH/EPA/SHUTTERSTOCK

Low oil prices pushed the Houston company under. A rig in Texas.

Driller Rosehill Seeks Bankruptcy

By Jonathan Randles And Micah Maidenberg

Rosehill Resources Inc. has become the latest oil-and-gas drilling company to be pushed into chapter 11 bankruptcy amid low crude prices and disruption to the energy markets caused in part by the coronavirus pandemic.

The Houston-based shale driller filed for chapter 11 protection Sunday with a lender-backed plan under which its senior bondholders, owed $100 million in principal, would swap out debt for nearly 70% of the equity in the business when it emerges from bankruptcy.

Lenders providing a $17.5 million bankruptcy loan to fund Rosehill's restructuring would get about a quarter of the company's reorganized equity, according to court papers filed in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Houston.

Rosehill listed assets of $872.5 million and total debt of $496.3 million on its chapter 11 petition.

The prepackaged chapter 11 plan is outlined in a restructuring support agreement Rosehill struck with lenders this month. Lenders under the company's revolving credit agreement, meanwhile, have agreed to turn that deal into an $500 million exit financing package with an initial borrowing base of $235 million upon Rosehill's emergence from chapter 11, court papers say.

The company said it expects to leave chapter 11 within 75 days.

Rosehill had been seeking to address its debt load before the coronavirus pandemic and had been looking into a potential out-of-court restructuring since late last year, the company said. The driller explored a sale of its assets and was in talks about a potential merger with an unidentified third party before filing for chapter 11.

But negotiations over each of these transactions also included discussions over ways to convert some of the company's long-term debt into equity, Rosehill Chief Financial Officer R. Craig Owen said in a declaration filed in bankruptcy court. The timeline to complete a possible restructuring was shortened by events of default alleged by creditors under the company's senior bonds and revolving credit facility, Mr. Owen said.

The chapter 11 filing comes after the company said earlier this month that it reached a deal with lenders under its revolving first-lien loan, holders of its second-lien notes and preferred stock, and Tema Oil & Gas Co., which holds equity interests in Rosehill's operating unit.

The parties made the deal with the assumption that Rosehill would file for chapter 11 protection to restructure its balance sheet. Under the proposal, general unsecured creditors will be paid in full in cash, court papers say. The restructuring proposal must be approved by a bankruptcy judge.

Rosehill said the chapter 11 filing isn't expected to affect payments to vendors or employees. The company has filed customary first-day bankruptcy motions seeking to pay taxes, wages and other ordinary business expenses while under chapter 11 protection.

Energy producers in shale-energy regions of the U.S. have faced intense pressure as the pandemic slammed demand for oil, hampering prices and forcing companies to cut back on spending and production.

Rosehill has retained Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP and Haynes & Boone LLP as legal counsel and investment bank Jefferies LLC and Opportune LLP as financial advisers.

Mastercard, Visa Fined Wirecard

Continued from page B1

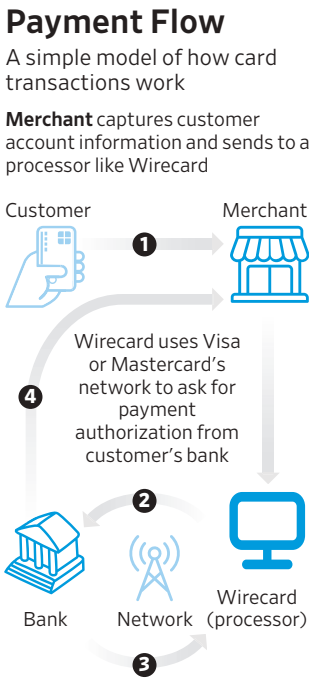
over companies such as Wirecard that help bring payments into their networks. While the Federal Trade Commission has taken a more active role identifying card fraud—and recently brought a string of cases accusing individuals and companies of processing unsavory purchases—the industry relies in part on self regulation, especially outside the U.S.

The networks have powers to fine payment processors like Wirecard. Fines, which generally aren't made public, can be imposed for reasons including too many disputed transactions, or for disguising the true nature of transactions. Banks and card processors can also directly terminate relationships with merchants.

Payments processors like Wirecard are supposed to play a front-line role in detecting and reducing fraud by merchants, according to Scott Talbott, vice president of government affairs at the Electronic Transactions Association, an industry body.

"Processors can go rogue and engage in fraudulent activity—either through willful blindness or by aiding and abetting fraud," he said. "The card networks are a strong link in the chain to defend against that."

As investigators piece together the nature of Wirecard's activities, one focus is on its practice of managing payments for merchants other companies would avoid. Wirecard's business leaned on servicing pornography, gambling and nutraceuticals, according to former employees and the people familiar with the matter.


Payment Flow
A simple model of how card transactions work
Merchant captures customer account information and sends to a processor like Wirecard
Customer
Merchant
1
Wirecard uses Visa or Mastercard's network to ask for payment authorization from customer's bank
4
2
Bank
Network
Wirecard (processor)
3
The customer's issuing bank sends a message back over the network to authorize payment
The processor, Wirecard, confirms the transaction and the merchant is paid by the issuing bank
Sources: Mastercard; Barclaycard

Wirecard could charge higher fees to handle these types of payments, which are seen as riskier because customers often dispute the charges. Sellers of goods and services pay a merchant discount rate when they accept card payments, which include network and processor fees as well as interchange fees paid to the card issuer.

In the first quarter of 2017, internal Wirecard documents seen by the Journal show merchant discount rates averaged more than 7% for transactions done through one of Wirecard's key business partners. Pornjapan paid a discount rate of 10%. Wirecard used partners to process payments in countries where it didn't have licenses.

Card payments are accompanied by a merchant category code, which describes the type of merchant where a consumer is shopping and occasionally describes specific goods or services.

In 2008, Mastercard fined Wirecard £11 million ($14 million) for processing gambling transactions under the wrong codes, according to a person familiar with the fine. In 2010, Mastercard wrote to Wirecard's banking unit about fresh concerns that it was rerouting through miscoded merchants gambling transactions that banks had previously declined. Banks would then approve these payments thinking they weren't gambling related, according to a letter from Mastercard to Wirecard seen by the Journal.

MICHAEL DALDER/REUTERS

Payment processors are supposed to play a role in curbing seller fraud.

During several periods over the past dozen years, both Visa and Mastercard executives have been concerned about a high number of Wirecard transactions being disputed by cardholders, referred to as chargebacks. These transactions often involved cards being used fraudulently on Wirecard clients' websites, according to the people familiar with the matter.

In 2009, Visa fined Wirecard's banking unit $12 million for high chargebacks that occurred in October and November 2009, according to documents publicly disclosed in an FTC suit not directly related to Wirecard. Wirecard's total revenue for the fourth quarter of 2009, in comparison, was about $79 million.

Visa currently considers chargebacks to be high when they exceed about 1% of purchases made at a merchant.

In October 2009, some of Wirecard's clients had chargeback rates ranging from 2% to 15% including merchants in the nutraceutical sector, according to documents filed in the FTC suit. Chargebacks were even higher in November among the worst-offending merchants. Several were well above 100%.

Fund Investors' Data Exposed in Hacking

A ransomware attack against a vendor of **SEI Investments** Co. detected in May exposed the personal information of investors in roughly 100 of the fund administrator's clients, according to people familiar with the matter.

By Dylan Tokar, James Rundle and Juliet Chung

Angelo Gordon & Co., **Graham Capital Management**, **Fortress Investment Group** LLC, **Centerbridge Partners** and **Pacific Investment Management** Co. were among the funds whose investors were affected by the attack, the people said. Some of SEI's clients notified their investors of the breach earlier this month after SEI told them about the attack.

The attack infiltrated the corporate systems of **M.J. Brunner**, a Pittsburgh- and Atlanta-based service provider that developed and supports SEI's investment dashboard and online enrollment portal, the people said. Hackers took files from Brunner that contained usernames and emails—and in some cases names, physical addresses and phone numbers—associated with the dashboard, the people said.

A spokeswoman for SEI said the company's network wasn't compromised and the attack wasn't predicated on a vulnerability within its network.

"We take our clients' security very seriously, and we are working with Brunner, the FBI and our impacted clients to understand the extent to which SEI's or our clients' data has been exposed," she said.

A Brunner spokesman said the firm's IT staff "detected, and interrupted, a security incident involving some of our corporate systems by an unauthorized actor."

The attack is the latest in a string of ransomware incidents that have affected the financial-services sector through its suppliers. In March, financial-technology provider Finastra suffered an attack that forced it to temporarily take its systems offline. An attack on Finablr PLC's foreign-exchange business Travelex in late December shut down its website for weeks.

On July 10, the Securities and Exchange Commission published a warning that it had seen sophisticated cyberattacks targeting companies and their third-party suppliers.

Officials from the National Security Agency have warned that vendors and service providers have emerged as popular targets, as successful attacks can yield access to large amounts of sensitive information for a web of clients, or even systems access.

SEI, based in Oaks, Pa., is a fund administrator that does business with a swath of hedge funds and private-equity funds. As of June 30, SEI had $693 billion in client assets under administration, according to the company.

Brunner was asked to pay a ransom but declined, prompting the hackers to post company data online in July, the people said.

Dollar's Fall Nears Worst in A Decade

By Caitlin Ostroff

The dollar is on track to close out its worst month since April 2011 as a rise in coronavirus infections across the U.S. threatens to damp the economic recovery and keep low interest rates in place for longer.

The ICE U.S. Dollar Index, which measures the greenback against a basket of other currencies, weakened 0.6% Monday to its lowest closing level since Jan. 31, 2019, according to Dow Jones Market Data.

Investors have sold the dollar and bought currencies of countries with lower infection levels in recent weeks. That has erased 3.8% of the currency's value in July, putting it on track for its worst one-month performance in over nine years.

CURRENCIES

The recent surge in cases in parts of the U.S. has prompted local authorities to halt or rewind plans to let business activity resume, raising doubts about the prospects for the economy. California, Texas and Florida, which are among the hardest-hit states, together account for more than a quarter of U.S. gross domestic product.

New claims for unemployment benefits, which offer a view on the health of the labor market, last week climbed for the first time in four months, suggesting that the recovery may be faltering. Weekly applications, which surpassed six million in the last week of March, had previously fallen as government-support programs and the gradual reopening of economies allowed employers to keep staff on payrolls and bring workers back.

Investors are betting that the Federal Reserve will offer a gloomier outlook for the economy following a two-day meeting that ends Wednesday. Fed officials have already warned this month that the economy faces a deeper downturn and more difficult recovery if the country doesn't take more effective action to slow the spread of the virus.

The economic signals are "telling you that the V-shaped recovery has basically stopped. It's not V anymore. It's plateauing," said Derek Halpenny, head of research for global markets in the European region at MUFG Bank. "The optimism that was there in June will be gone and the message is going to be the Fed needs to do more."

Monday's selloff put the ICE dollar index on track for its sharpest one-day decline since May 26. The recent move has been accelerated by the Fed's decision to slash interest rates to near zero, removing much of the differential between the U.S. and other developed countries where rates have been negative for some time. The yield on the 10-year U.S. Treasury note dropped to 0.584% on Monday, from 1.910% at the end of last year, according to Tradeweb.

Real yields, which reflect the value of bond yields after adjusting for inflation expectations, have plunged for Treasurys, contributing to the dollar weakness.

Gold Prices Surge to Intraday Peak

By Joe Wallace

Gold prices zoomed to a record, as a weakening dollar injected new momentum into a rally driven by uncertainty about the world economy.

Futures contracts for delivering gold in August shot up 1.8% to $1,931 a troy ounce, topping the previous intraday peak of $1,923.70 from September 2011. Gold futures reached an all-time closing high for the first time in nearly nine years Friday, but remained short of the intraday record.

Monday's record marked a milestone in gold's bull run, which many traders rank alongside those of 2008-11 and the late 1970s. The gloomy outlook for the world economy, a decline in interest rates, tensions between the U.S. and China, and the dollar's depreciation fueled the surge as investors bought assets they perceive to be havens.

COMMODITIES

"There are still a lot of things to be worried about, which is why gold is attracting all this attention and all this money," said David Govett, head of precious metals at commodities brokerage Marex Spectron.

The advance marked gold's seventh consecutive daily advance, the metal's longest winning streak since February. Gold prices have gained nearly 9% over the past month and about 27% this year, making the metal one of the strongest-performing major assets in 2020.

The price of silver, seen as a store of value by investors as well as having widespread industrial uses, rose even more sharply than gold Monday. Futures for September delivery, the most widely owned contracts, jumped 7.2% to $24.501 an ounce, the highest level in almost seven years.

Adding impetus to gold and silver Monday was a weakening in the dollar, which made the precious metals more attractive to investors overseas. The ICE U.S. Dollar Index, which tracks the dollar against the currencies of six trading partners, fell Monday, extending a recent slide that has it on track for its worst month in nearly a decade.

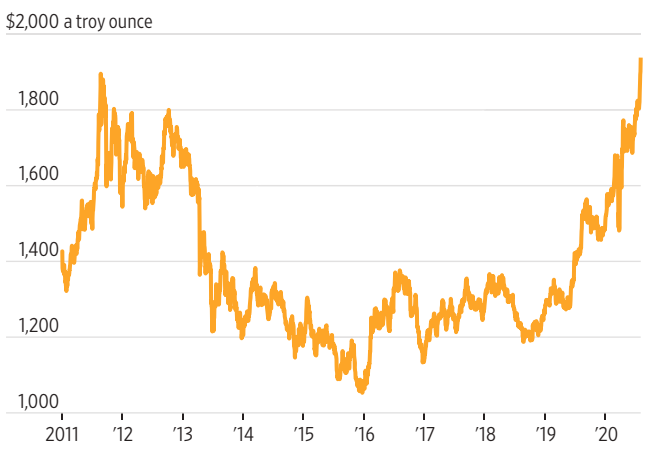
Gold's inverse relationship with the dollar frayed this year, as both assets benefited from haven buying during the pandemic. It is reasserting itself, a factor that will boost gold in the coming months if the dollar continues to slide, said Joni Teves, precious-metal strategist at UBS Group.

Still, "the move in gold this year has really been driven by rising strategic interest," said Ms. Teves. Investors who were previously uninterested in the precious metal are now buying it, a trend that could lift prices above $2,000 an ounce within six months, she added.

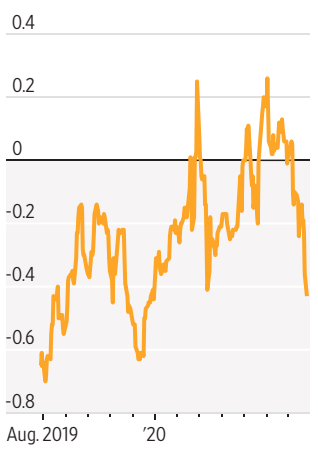
DAVID GRAY/BLOOMBERG NEWS

The metal has gained nearly 9% over the past month and about 27% this year.

Gold-futures price*



Gold-dollar correlation†



*Most actively traded futures †Thirty-day moving correlation between percentage changes in gold futures and the ICE U.S. Dollar Index. A negative number means gold and the dollar are moving in opposite directions. Figures through Monday 6:30 a.m. EDT.

Source: FactSet (price, correlation); Wall Street Journal calculations (correlation)

Shares of precious-metals miners including **Barrick Gold** Corp. and **Newmont** Corp. benefited from Monday's advance in gold and silver, extending their recent gains. Some gold-mining stocks are now up more than 50% this year.

Gold prices have leapt in London, the main hub for buying and selling gold bars, as well as in New York's futures market. In Friday's auction, prices topped $1,900 for the first time since the Bank of England and N.M. Rothschild & Sons Ltd., now investment bank Rothschild & Co., founded the daily price in 1919.

One factor that distinguishes the current surge in gold prices from the bull run during and after the last global financial crisis is the fragile state of demand for physical metal. Lockdowns and economic uncertainty have crimped jewelry purchases in India and China, normally two huge bullion markets.

So far, a burst of buying by investors has more than offset the dearth of jewelry demand. But if financial demand dries up, prices could fall without physical consumption to act as a cushion for prices, said Ms. Teves.

Investors who wouldn't normally be active in the market until European and U.S. hours bought gold in thin Asian trading Monday, exaggerating the rise, according to Mr. Govett. "London this morning is a little bit shellshocked," he said.

However, Mr. Govett added that gold could be knocked off course in the event of a correction in the stock market that prompts investors to sell precious metals to meet margin calls.

Technology Stocks Power Broader Market

By Anna Isaac And Ben Eisen

Stocks rose as investors bet that the largest technology firms will power ahead despite an uncertain economy.

Amazon.com, Google parent **Alphabet** and **Apple** led the major indexes higher, extending a rise that has helped make the tech sector the best performing in the S&P 500 index this year.

The broad stock market index rose 23.78 points, or 0.7%, to 3239.41. The Dow Jones Industrial Average climbed 114.88 points, or 0.4%, to 26584.77. The technology-focused Nasdaq Composite Index jumped 173.09 points, or 1.7%, to 10536.27.

MONDAY'S MARKETS

The big technology companies are due to report quarterly earnings this week.

The firms have weathered the recent recession better than many other sectors of the economy, and some investors say they believe their stocks are poised to outperform after a retreat in recent days.

"The setup is better than it would have been if all these tech stocks were sitting at record highs going into earnings," said Jason Ware, partner and chief investment officer at Albion Financial Group in Salt Lake City.

Amazon shares ticked up $46.30, or 1.5%, to $3,055.21, extending their gains for the year to 65%. Alphabet rose $21.22, or 1.4%, to $1,529.43. Apple added $8.78, or 2.4%, to $379.24. The S&P 500's tech sector climbed 1.6%, outperforming the other 10 groups in the index.

Rising coronavirus infections around the world tempered the gains in the stock market.

The Federal Reserve is set to hold its regular meeting Tuesday and Wednesday.

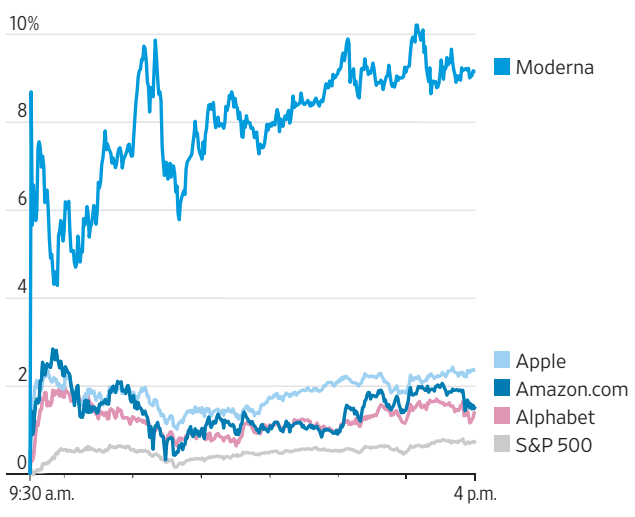
"There's some optimism that the Fed's likely message of 'lower for longer' might be a positive one this week," said Seema Shah, chief strategist at Principal Global Investors. "But investors remain cautious about the U.S."

Real yields, which reflect the value of bond yields after adjusting for inflation expectations, have plunged around the world as central banks slashed interest rates and unleashed stimulus to address the economic hit from the coronavirus pandemic.

The real yield on U.S. Treasurys has dropped to 2012 levels, which is driving a selloff in the dollar, according to Derek Halpenny, head of research at MUFG Bank.

"At the moment, there's quite compelling evidence that the economy is flatlining," said Mr. Halpenny. "Gold is your best form of protection as an investor, as long as real yields continue to fall lower."

Share-price and index performance, Monday



Source: FactSet

The yield on the 10-year U.S. Treasury note ticked up to 0.609% from 0.589% Friday.

In addition to earnings reports from some of the world's biggest companies, investors are monitoring developments on a highly anticipated U.S. stimulus package as millions of Americans are on the verge of losing expanded unemployment benefits.

Lawmakers now have little time before the $600 weekly supplement to jobless benefits ends.

Meanwhile, the latest economic data showed orders for durable goods jumped by 7.3% in June from a month earlier, the second consecutive monthly gain. Economists polled by The Wall Street Journal expected a 5.4% rise.

Investors' concerns about the global outlook have been exacerbated by the rise in new coronavirus cases across the U.S. and other parts of the world.

The number of infections climbed over the weekend to surpass 16 million globally, and American officials urged residents to comply with orders meant to slow the virus's spread.

Shares of **Moderna** rose $6.70, or 9.2%, to $79.91 after the company said it had received additional funding from the federal government's effort to accelerate development of a vaccine for Covid-19.

All but eight stocks in the S&P 500 tech sector rose, pushing the group up 1.6%. Other gainers included **KLA, Corning**, **IPG Photonics** and **Qualcomm**, all of which jumped more than 4%.

The S&P 500 materials sector climbed 1.4%, led by the gold-mining firm **Newmont** Corp., which rose 3.4%, or $2.29, to $69.04.

Tesla Inc., the electric-car marker whose shares have more than tripled this year, rose 8.7%, or $122.60, to $1,539.60. The company reported its fourth consecutive quarter of profit last week, making it eligible for inclusion in the S&P 500.

In commodities markets, the U.S. crude oil benchmark rose 0.8%.

Overseas, stocks were mixed. The pan-continental Stoxx Europe 600 benchmark dropped 0.3% as worries about recent outbreaks of the virus in Spain and the implications for the travel industry weighed on sentiment, analysts said.

At midday in Tokyo, the Nikkei 225 Stock Average was up 0.1%, Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index was up 0.5% and the Shanghai Composite was up 0.6%. U.S. stock futures were up slightly.

AUCTION RESULTS

Here are the results of Monday's Treasury auctions. All bids are awarded at a single price at the market-clearing yield. Rates are determined by the difference between that price and the face value.

	13-Week	26-Week
Applications	$140,261,950,200	$154,787,240,700
Accepted bids	$60,255,293,000	$56,907,878,200
" noncomp	$757,577,100	$576,092,700
" foreign noncomp	$1,000,000,000	$1,000,000,000
Auction price (rate)	99.973458	99.934278
	(0.105%)	(0.130%)
	0.106%	0.132%
Bids at clearing yield accepted	99.91%	6.35%
	912796ZT5	912796UC1

Both issues are dated July 30, 2020. The 13-week bills mature on Oct. 29, 2020; the 26-week bills mature on Jan. 28, 2021.

TWO-YEAR NOTES

Applications	$117,769,680,100
Accepted bids	$53,454,745,100
" noncompetitively	$158,228,200
" foreign noncompetitively	$5,000,000
Auction price (rate)	99.940116
	(0.155%)
Interest rate	0.125%
Bids at clearing yield accepted	11.58%
Cusip number	91282CAC5

The notes, dated July 31, 2020, mature on July 31, 2022.

FIVE-YEAR NOTES

Applications	$119,074,385,100
Accepted bids	$54,568,288,400
" noncompetitively	$23,179,700
" foreign noncompetitively	$5,000,000
Auction price (rate)	99.811496
	(0.288%)
Interest rate	0.250%
Bids at clearing yield accepted	1.61%
Cusip number	91282CAB7

The notes, dated July 31, 2020, mature on July 31, 2025.

Hong Kong's New Index Drops on Its First Day

By Joanne Chiu

HONG KONG—A new technology stock benchmark that includes China's two most valuable companies made its debut on Monday, falling more than Hong Kong's broader stock market as it sought to give investors a better read on the tech sector's growth and relative performance.

The Hang Seng Tech Index, which tracks 30 technology companies listed in the city, climbed as much as 2.2% on Monday morning before ending the day down 1.3%, versus a 0.4% decline in the broader 50-stock Hang Seng Index.

Three of the tech index's biggest constituents—**Tencent Holdings** Ltd., **Meituan Dianping** and **Xiaomi** Corp.—fell, while the Hong Kong-listed shares of **Alibaba Group Holding** Ltd. ended the day unchanged. The four companies together make up a third of the index's performance.

Many stocks in the new benchmark scored big gains earlier this year and rose last week after index compiler Hang Seng Indexes Co. unveiled plans for the technology index on July 20. "A lot of the short-term optimism" was already reflected in their prices ahead of Monday's small declines, said Gabriel Chan, head of investment services for Hong Kong at BNP Paribas Wealth Management.

Using historical prices of the Hang Seng Tech Index's constituent stocks, the new benchmark would have been up 45.6% in the year through July 24, according to a backdated simulation on the index provider's website. That compared with a 15.5% gain in technology-heavy Nasdaq Composite Index over the same period.

The broad Hang Seng Index, on the other hand, is down 12.4% in the year through July 24, pulled down by the shares of banks, insurers and property developers, which have borne the brunt of China and Hong Kong's economic weakness during the coronavirus pandemic.

> 'Hong Kong is really embracing China's new economy,' a trading official says.

Mr. Chan said Hong Kong's market benchmark has for a long time been dominated by old-economy companies, which is why it has underperformed most overseas counterparts. As more Chinese internet and technology companies list their shares in the city, the market should benefit, he added.

"Hong Kong is really embracing China's new economy," said Andy Maynard, managing director of equities sales trading at China Renaissance Securities. He said the tech index reflects how the market is evolving.

Over the past nine months, three large U.S.-listed Chinese companies—Alibaba, **JD.com** Inc. and **NetEase** Inc.—have sold shares in Hong Kong and added secondary listings in the city. Mainland Chinese companies make up nearly 78% of Hong Kong's total stock market capitalization, versus 67.5% at the end of 2018 and around 57% a decade ago, according to data from the exchange.

Last week, Alibaba's financial-technology affiliate, Ant Group, said it plans concurrent initial public offerings in Hong Kong and on Shanghai's year-old Star market for homegrown technology companies. The Science and Technology Innovation Board last week rolled out its own benchmark called the Star 50 Index, which tracks 50 companies listed on its Nasdaq-style exchange.

In Hong Kong, the Hang Seng Tech Index could inspire the creation of exchange-traded funds tracking its performance, said Bruno Lee, chairman of the Hong Kong Investment Funds Association, whose members include BlackRock Inc., Fidelity International and dozens of other global and Chinese asset managers. "The launch of a tech index is a timely move," he said.

Hang Seng Indexes is also revamping its flagship benchmark, which has Tencent as its only technology stock. In May, the index compiler said it would start allowing companies with shares with unequal voting rights to join the index.

考研资料：数学、英语、政治、管综、西综、法硕等（整合各大机构）
英语类：四六级万词班专四专八雅思等
财经类：初级会计、中级会计、注册会计、高级会计、税务师、会计实操、证券从业、基金从业、资产评估、初级审
公务员：国考、省考、事业单位、军队文职、三支一扶微信 2270291360
银行：银行招聘、笔试、面试
教师资格：小学、中学、教师招聘面试
建筑：一建、二建、消防、造价
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HEARD ON THE STREET
FINANCIAL ANALYSIS & COMMENTARY

Uncertainty Fuels a New Gold Rush

In an unsettled environment, it makes sense for investors to seek insurance policies, but no single insurance fits all

In a desert, oases can get a bit crowded.

On Monday, the price of gold futures rose to a record. The precious metal is now up 27% in 2020, compared with a total return of less than 1% for the S&P 500. Gold produces no income but is a hedge against consumer-price rises, so a key driver of the rally has been the drop in the yields of inflation-protected Treasurys due to monetary stimulus and a recent rebound in inflation expectations. Also, the weakening of the dollar as Covid-19 cases rebound in the U.S. mechanically pushes up the prices of commodities invoiced in greenbacks.

But there is another reason. As WisdomTree's associate research director Mobeen Tahir put it Monday: "Gold is the new put option."

Investors have been buying actual put options too. These derivative contracts, which give holders the ability to sell shares at a preset price to insure against selloffs, are the basis for calculating the Cboe Volatility Index or VIX—also known as Wall Street's "fear gauge" because it signals whether investors expect a bumpy ride for the S&P 500.

Ever since stocks rebounded strongly in May, many analysts have been puzzled about how well the market is doing, given the devastating effect that the pandemic has had on the global economy.

All the way through the rally, the VIX has remained elevated, which is uncommon. Over the past decade, the VIX has rarely stood above 25 as the S&P 500 recorded healthy monthly gains, as it has done in the past three months.

Uncertainty itself may explain why all of these things are happening at once.

A long-held theory by Barclays's head of foreign-exchange macro strategy, Marvin Barth, is that periods of chronic, unmeasurable uncertainty often don't devolve into the all-out chaos that could be expected, but rather into "herding" among investors, who all crowd into those few assets that present measurable risks, or at least focus on "known unknowns" over "unknown unknowns."

The precious metal and tech, while probably facing little downside, are starting to look stretched.

On the one hand, technology stocks are seen as structural winners and having only limited exposure to Covid-19 so, just like gold, they seem to be a refuge against uncertainty: The Nasdaq index is up 17% this year. On the other hand, the likes of airlines and hotels have been punished, though also overbought during bouts of euphoria, because the losses resulting from travel bans are more or less quantifiable—as would be the lifesaving impact of a vaccine.

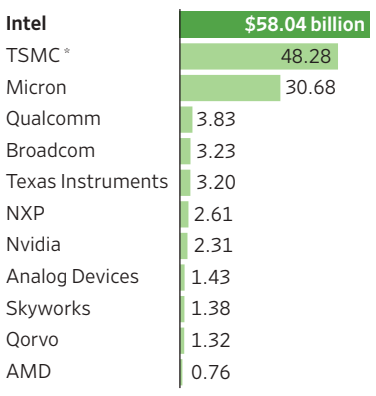
"Nobody knows what to do with the middle stuff," Mr. Barth said. And so, most of the stock market trades sideways.

Lack of visibility about the future has also meant that, unlike in every other recent selloff, the usual crowd of traders that makes money betting against volatility—something which in itself mellows market swings—hasn't been brave enough to return, data by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission suggests.

But this herd behavior creates a risk of its own: Gold and tech, while probably facing little downside, are starting to look stretched. Given that high-volatility regimes tend to be persistent, perhaps investors can find new ways to hedge. "Call overwriting" strategies, for example, combine shares with options that cap the upside in exchange for income.

In an uncertain environment, it makes sense for investors to buy insurance policies. They should remember, though, that the meaning of uncertainty is that no one insurance fits all. *—Jon Sindreu*

Net property, plant and equipment, most recent quarter



*TSMC converted to U.S. dollars
Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence

SASCHA STEINBACH/EPA/SHUTTERSTOCK

Intel's manufacturing facilities comprise the bulk of its $58 billion in net property.

Intel Likely to Keep Production

Chip maker's stumble opens door to more outsourcing, but not for everything

Intel's manufacturing prowess has taken a beating. But the chip maker is unlikely to get out of the "making" part of the business.

Such speculation is now rampant on Wall Street, following a disastrous second-quarter report that featured largely good numbers but was overshadowed by Intel's disclosure of a "defect mode" in the 7-nanometer manufacturing process that it is developing for its next generation of chips. The problem will delay shipping of the first chips made on that process to late 2022 at the earliest—a year behind the company's original plan. Intel's share price slid 16% Friday, with at least six brokers downgrading the stock following the news.

This isn't Intel's first such stumble. In fact, the 10-nanometer process that the company is now using to produce its most advanced chips suffered so many delays that rival chip maker **Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing** Co. was able to leap ahead. TSMC has already been volume shipping 7-nanometer chips for a year now and will have 5-nanometer chips hitting the market this fall in some 5G smartphones and other devices. The company also said in its own earnings call earlier this month that volume production for 3-nanometer chips is expected by fall of 2022, which could put Intel at least two generations behind by that point.

That is a humbling position for the once-undisputed leader in chip-manufacturing technology. And it has many thinking Intel might be on its way out of the production end of the business—especially since the company outlined contingency plans that would have it outsourcing production of some of its most advanced chip designs if its own production technology isn't up to snuff by 2023.

Many chip companies already employ what is called a fabless model, where they specialize in design and outsource production. Such a model can lead to higher operating profits and cash flow, given the lack of capital expenditures needed to build, equip and operate fabs. Mark Lipacis of Jefferies said in a note to clients that a fabless Intel "would turn into a cash flow and capital return machine." Christopher Rolland of Susquehanna proposed that Intel sell its fabs to TSMC, given a "zero-to-no chance of catching/surpassing" the Taiwanese giant.

Both are unlikely outcomes. Intel's manufacturing facilities comprise the bulk of its $58 billion in net property, plant and equipment, which doesn't include all of the intellectual property built up over 50 years of manufacturing semiconductors. That leaves TSMC and Samsung as the only plausible buyers, and U.S. regulators are highly unlikely to allow foreign entities to grab the most advanced domestic chip making facilities.

What's more, Intel's dominance in its core PC and data-center markets suggests manufacturing process isn't everything. **Advanced Micro Devices** has been shipping 7-nanometer data-center chips manufactured by TSMC for a year now, and Intel still controlled about 95% of that market in the first quarter of this year, according to Mercury Research.

Wes Twigg of KeyBanc Capital says Intel can still realize many advantages from producing its own chips, even if it eventually outsources some new ones to get competitive products out the door on time. Intel, he added, "still sells everything they can make."

—Dan Gallagher

Grocery Chains Like Albertsons Deserve Another Fresh Look

Impressive results did little to enthuse investors in **Kroger** Co., America's largest supermarket chain. The second largest got a similar shrug on Monday after posting solid numbers.

Albertsons Cos. saw sales increase more than 21% in the quarter ended June 20 compared with a year earlier, boosted by a 276% surge in digital sales. Adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization grew 93%. Both measures were largely in line with expectations, yet Albertsons' shares fell 5.4% on Monday.

There are valid reasons for investors to be jaded about grocers. Supermarkets are a competitive business with low margins. They lagged behind the market as challenges from discounters and e-commerce mounted: Kroger has underperformed the S&P 500 by 65 percentage points over the past five years, and its multiple of enterprise value to trailing sales is 0.35 times, largely in line with its five-year average.

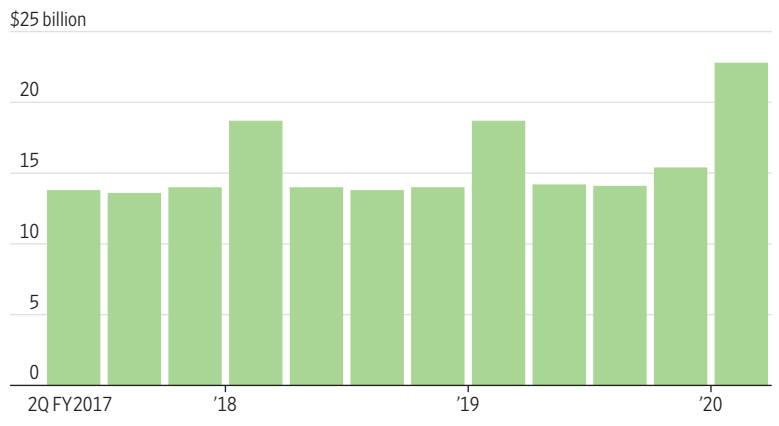
But this time supermarkets are among the privileged retailers benefiting from the pandemic and the new consumer habits it will form, including a shift to eating at home.

Albertsons showed encouraging signs. Last quarter, the grocer gained share in places where it isn't a market leader. It saw a 27% year-over-year increase in the number of households that signed up for its loyalty program, which drives up spending. Revenue growth this month is on track to be up by a midteens percentage compared with a year earlier.

One advantage Albertsons has is its store footprint, which is heavier on the coasts and in higher-income areas compared with Kroger. It is reasonable to expect higher-income customers to embrace delivery options, which aren't free, and to become loyal to supermarkets that provide large selections of fresh produce. Albertsons is already a leader: Fresh products including those sold at the deli counter, hot bars and floral products account for 40% to 45% of revenue, 5 to 10 percentage points higher than most of its peers, according to Evercore.

Supermarkets remain a tough business, but the pandemic has given them a sustainable boost. They deserve to be seen in a different light. *—Jinjoo Lee*

Albertsons quarterly revenue



Note: Fiscal year 2019 ended Feb 29, 2020
Source: S&P Capital IQ

Drug Firms' China Habit Is Hard to Quit

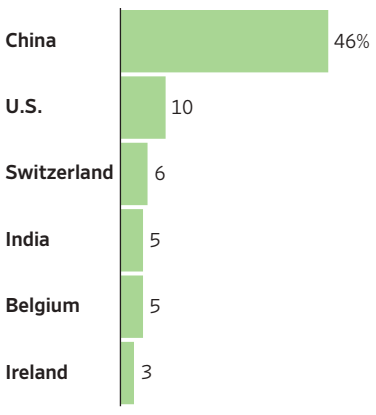
The pandemic prompted many countries to re-evaluate China-dependent supply chains for essential goods such as drugs. India may take particular advantage, but only with plenty of patience.

India rolled out nearly $1 billion of incentives to encourage pharmaceutical companies to make 53 ingredients and key materials for producing drugs locally. India has a strong generic-drug industry—it supplies more than 40% of generics in the U.S., according to Credit Suisse—but relies on China for the products' ingredients.

China accounts for 68% of India's imports of active pharmaceutical ingredients, according to Goldman Sachs. This became a problem earlier this year, when many Chinese drug factories were closed due to the pandemic. Prices shot up and India had to temporarily restrict exports of dozens of ingredients and drugs that use them, including common antibiotics.

India could benefit from moves by foreign drugmakers to secure a second supply source for key ingredients. There has been talk in the U.S. and Europe of reshoring the pharmaceutical supply chain, but that could impose substantial costs. Having another source in a developing country such as India might be a useful compromise.

Share of active pharmaceutical ingredient exports in 2019



Source: Goldman Sachs

Under the Indian government's plan, incentives for some products could amount to 20% of sales. That would bridge the pricing gap between Indian and Chinese makers. Chinese active ingredients are 20% to 30% cheaper than Indian ones, according to a report by KPMG and the Confederation of Indian Industry.

But providing subsidies is likely just a first step. "There is no magic bullet. The creation of an API industry which can be resilient to face China or any other countries in the future requires consistent effort," said Sanjay Singh, a KPMG partner in India.

As the world's biggest API exporter, China enjoys economies of scale that lower raw-material costs, which make up two-thirds of production costs. The country's better infrastructure, ease of doing business and supportive government policies help to reduce production costs. India hopes to catch up by building three drug parks with the necessary infrastructure.

India's generics industry puts it in a good position, but challenging China will still take a lot of time and effort. *—Jacky Wong*

OVERHEARD

A spate of bad luck has driven many people to the bottle. Now it is happening to an entire industry—literally.

When lockdowns began across the U.S. in March, the timing couldn't have been worse for brewers. Bars closed before St. Patrick's Day and the beer-soaked March Madness basketball tournament was canceled. Since then, the closure of bars, stadiums and concert venues in much of the country has left tremendous quantities of beer spoiling in kegs.

One saving grace was that people stuck at home started to buy a lot more packaged beer in the spring, even without televised sports. Now that some leagues are restarting and temperatures are high, however, Covid-19 has thrown up another challenge: There just aren't enough cans for those suds. The Beer Institute says that aluminum cans have grown far more popular for packaging in recent years, cracking 60% for the first time in the second quarter. Less than one-third is bottled. The Can Manufacturers Institute says 35 billion cans are used annually for alcoholic beverages in the U.S. and Canada.

STEPHANIE LECOCQ/EPA/SHUTTERSTOCK

Can maker Ball is among those adding capacity, but it might not be in time for Americans to crack open a cold one of their choice as brewers scramble.